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Abu-Nidal Group Executes 15 'Palestinian Spies'

JN0409131889 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1500 GMT 4 Sep 89

[Text] In Beirut, the Abu Nidal [Sabri al-Banna] Fatah-Revolutionary Council has announced that 15 Palestinian spies working for the Israeli, U.S., FRG, British, Jordanian, Egyptian, and Iraqi intelligence services were executed by firing squad at dawn today.

At a news conference held in the Mar Ilyas camp in western Beirut, Yunus 'Umran, the official in charge of the movement, said those executed had earlier succeeded in infiltrating the movement's ranks and some of them were involved in the assassination of Palestinian officials, including Abu-Jihad [Khalil al-Wazir] and Abu-Hasan. He, however, did not disclose the names of those executed or the place they were executed.

Spokesman Names Those Executed

NC0909062189 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 1300 GMT 4 Sep 89

[Text] The Fatah-Revolutionary Council has announced that it has executed 15 Palestinians convicted of working for the intelligence services of the Zionist enemy and a number of Western and reactionary Arab countries. At a news conference in Mar Ilyas camp in Beirut today, the council showed a videotape of the defendants relating their involvement with hostile intelligence services and their activities in Lebanon, Palestine, and other Arab countries.

Yunis 'Imran, member of the movement's Leadership Council, read a press statement detailing the process by which the agents were recruited, how the Palestinian factions pursued and arrested them, and how the verdict of the popular committees against them was implemented.

The statement urged Lebanese and Palestinian patriotic and Islamic forces to resist the Zionist-Crusader onslaught against Syria and to establish a special administration tasked with calling on agents and those involved in such activities to repent. This administration will also provide various forms of material and moral guarantees for those who repent.

The following were executed: Ahmad Mahmud Diyab, charged with helping Mosad and the FRG intelligence service; Mizyid 'Ubayd Salih al-Hamad, for helping Mosad and the FRG intelligence service; Adib Jamil Michel Hawwa, for helping Mosad, the Jordanian intelligence service, and the Lebanese Deuxieme Bureau; Faysal 'Adil al-Funaysh, for working for Mosad and the Lahd militia; Khamis Dawud Muhammad Sa'd al-Masri, for working for Mosad and the Egyptian intelligence service; Mustafa Ibrahim Mustafa 'Ali, for working for the Egyptian intelligence service and the Lebanese Deuxieme Bureau and participating in the Sabra and Shatila massacres; Jamal Basim 'Abdallah, charged with dealing with the Jordanian intelligence service; Ibrahim Muhammad Khalil Hulayhil, for working for Mosad and the Jordanian intelligence service; 'Ayid Husayn 'Ali Muhammad Zakarnah, Mosad, the U.S. intelligence service, and the Jordanian intelligence service; Iyad Mahmud 'Abdallah Balatya, the Jordanian intelligence service; Muhammad Hammud 'Ali Muhammad Baqir, Mosad, the Lebanese Deuxieme bureau, and the Iraqi intelligence service; Khudr Nuri Abu 'Amshah, the Jordanian and Iraqi intelligence services; Muhammad Husayn Muhammad Zbib, Mosad and the Iraqi intelligence service; 'Ala'-al-Din Zaki Hamid, Mosad, and the U.S. and British intelligence services; and Jawad Sa'id Hasan 'Abd-al-Hadi, who was charged with dealing with the U.S. intelligence service.

'Arafat Comments on New York Visit, Nonaligned

NC0909104489 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0940 GMT 9 Sep 89

[Text] Riyadh, 9 Sep (MENA)—Palestinian President Yasir 'Arafat has announced that he will leave for New York with the leaders of the group of nine states which met on the sidelines of the nonaligned summit in Belgrade in order to discuss ways to promote an international peace conference with the UN secretary general and the members of the UN Security Council.

In a statement to the newspaper AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT, Yasir 'Arafat pointed out that it will not be as easy to hold an international conference as some people believe. He voiced concern over the fact that the United States supports Yitzhaq Shamir's plan and intentionally ignores the Palestinian peace initiative, which has been bolstered by the Casablanca summit resolutions.

'Arafat remarked that the U.S. position shows some positive signs and pointed out that U.S. President George Bush has for the first time noted the need to end the Israeli occupation of the occupied Arab territories. He said that if the United States wants to play a role as mediator, then it does not have the right to declare its adoption of the Shamir plan and ignore the positions of all the countries who support the Palestinian people's rights.

Yasir 'Arafat said that Israel is implementing Shamir's plan by besieging the Palestinians in the Gaza Strip and using all forms of repression and terrorism, including starvation. He asserted that there is a famine in Gaza.

The Palestinian president described the nonaligned summit's resolution in Belgrade to admit the state of Palestine as a full member in the Nonaligned Movement as constituting support for the Palestinian issue, the Arab's foremost cause, and for our peace initiative. He pointed out that the summit condemned Israel's intransigence and continued crimes against the Palestinian people.

'Arafat Returns to Tunis From Belgrade 8 Sep

JN0909165289 Sanaa Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1600 GMT 9 Sep 89

[Text] Brother President Abu-'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] and the delegation accompanying him arrived in Tunis yesterday from the Yugoslav capital after attending the ninth nonaligned summit.

'Arafat, Egypt's Mubarak Confer in Tunis

JN0909195989 Baghdad Voice of the PLO in Arabic 1855 GMT 9 Sep 89

[Text] Brother leader President Abu-'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] met yesterday in Tunis with Egyptian President Husni Mubarak. During the meeting, they reviewed latest developments in the Palestine question and the developments inside our occupied Palestinian territories, in addition to current Arab and international conditions.

Brother leader Abu-'Ammar, and his accompanying delegation, arrived in Tunis yesterday from the Yugoslav capital, Belgrade, after he took part in the ninth conference of the heads of state or government of the Nonaligned Movement.

PNC Speaker Says No Decision on Armed Struggle

JN1109090889 Amman AL-RA'Y in Arabic 11 Sep 89 p 19

[By 'Awdah 'Awdah]

[Text] Amman—"No decision has been made by the PLO to halt its armed struggle." This has been affirmed by Shaykh 'Abd-al-Hamid al-Sa'ih to AL-RA'Y. He said: We now focus on political means. If Israel insists on the use of arms and continues its terrorist practices, the Unified National Leadership of the Intifadah [uprising] and the political leadership may have to resort to other means to maintain the Palestinian people's right to achieve their objectives.

The Palestine National Council speaker affirmed that a comprehensive national strike and comprehensive civil disobedience are imminent and indispensable. He indicated that an intifadah escalation is a Palestinian, Arab, and Islamic demand. He called on all capable Arab states to extend material support to the intifadah. He said no Arab must hesitate to support it until it achieves its objectives.

He added that any delay in this support will undoubtedly achieve the enemy's objective of hampering the intifadah's progress toward its objectives.

Shaykh al-Sa'ih explained that the intifadah is the heart of the PLO, thus denying any disagreement between the political leadership outside the occupied territories and the Unified National Leadership.

On the liquidation of a large number of collaborators, especially after the launching of the Shamir plan, Shaykh al-Sa'ih explained that collaborators with the enemy are liquidated only after being warned many times.

On the Lebanese problem, Shaykh al-Sa'ih called on the Arab group to support the tripartite committee stemming from the [Casablanca] summit conference. He also called for the resumption of the committee's mission to resolve the Lebanese problem in a manner that maintains Lebanon's unity and sovereignty over its entire territory and leads to the withdrawal of the non-Lebanese forces which hamper Lebanon's unity and sovereignty.

Fatah Central Committee To Choose Political Bureau

JN0809075889 Amman AL-RA'Y in Arabic 8 Sep 89 p 1

[Text] Amman, AL-RA'Y—The Fatah Movement Central Committee is expected to meet in Tunis within days to choose three new members that the Fatah congress decided to add to the committee.

During the meeting, tasks will be distributed among the Central Committee members. The meeting will also choose members of the Political Bureau, which the Fatah fifth congress resolved to set up comprising no more than 11 Central Committee members.

During the same meeting, members will also be chosen to fill vacant places in the Revolutionary Council after 50 members were elected [by the Fatah congress]. Twenty-five members of the Military Council and 15 Fatah qualified cadres will be appointed to the Revolutionary Council.

PFLP Claims Responsibility for Rocket Attack

JN0709173889 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1700 GMT 7 Sep 89

[Excerpt] The Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine [PFLP] has announced in a telephone call from Damascus that a group belonging to it early this morning fired rockets at the (Sa'ar Hagolan) settlement south of Lake Tiberias from across the Jordanian border. The rockets accurately hit their targets causing losses in the enemy ranks, according to the PFLP's statement. [passage omitted]

PFLP-GC Pledges To Continue 'Armed Struggle'

NC0409174389 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1615 GMT 4 Sep 89

[Excerpt] [Passage omitted] In a statement issued in Beirut today, the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine—General Command [PFLP-GC] pledged to continue the struggle against Israel and against what it termed Yasir 'Arafat's policy of submissiveness to Israel. It announced that the Israeli raids will not deter the PFLP-GC from continuing the armed struggle and that it will decisively confront all those who have deviated or capitulated under 'Arafat's leadership by making concessions to Israel.

Algeria

Bendjedid Appoints Hamrouche Prime Minister

Former Presidency Official

LD0909190189 Algiers Domestic Service in French 1800 GMT 9 Sep 89

[Excerpts] The new head of government is Mr Mouloud Hamrouche, until now secretary general of the Presidency of the Republic. A communique from the Presidency announces this. The president of the Republic this morning received Mr Kasdi Merbah and announced that he has put an end to his duties as head of government by applying the provisions of Article 74 [words indistinct]. [passage omitted]

The president of the Republic has appointed Mr Mouloud Hamrouche as head of government. He has charged him with forming a government team and submitting his program for approval by the People's National Assembly. On this occasion the president of the Republic stressed to the new head of government that he should concern himself with implementing, in the best possible conditions and resolutely, the political, economic, and social reforms, in accordance with the letter and spirit of the Constitution. He charged Mr Hamrouche with watching closely and proceeding swiftly with the actions necessary in order to emerge from the crisis and to tackle the many constraints of the current situation within the framework of the Constitution and the economic, social, and educational reforms.

The president of the Republic entrusted the head of government with carefully ensuring that the ways and means which will permit the country to harmoniously and fully accede to the new democratic rules which have been developed. [passage omitted]

Bendjedid Reorganizes Departments

LD0909233789 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 2200 GMT 9 Sep 89

[Text] President Chadli Bendjedid decided to reorganize the departments of the Presidency according to the constitutional authorities of the head of state. The new organization concerns the presidential authorities in the fields of national defense, foreign policy, the relation of the president with the government's performance through the meetings of the Council of Ministers, the relation of the president with the National People's Assembly, and the relations of the president with the political parties, trade union movements, and societies.

For these purposes, the secretary general of the Presidency handles the activation and coordination of the activities of the departments of the Presidency.

The assistants to the president will be entrusted with special tasks. These concern the councillor entrusted with following up the diplomatic activities of the president; the councillor in charge of political affairs, who follows up relations with elected members, societies of political nature, and social organizations; the councillor entrusted with social and economic affairs, and particularly following up the conditions for preparing and implementing the national programs in the economic and social fields; and the councillor in charge of security affairs.

On the other hand, the president, who is responsible for national defense, relies on the supreme council for security, which is responsible to the president and whose activities regarding defense and security affairs are followed up by a secretary who assesses and prepares resolutions.

The traditional duties of protocol and information will be organized in the form of independent departments.

Merbah Refuses To Resign

JN0909194089 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1900 GMT 9 Sep 89

[Text] Algerian Prime Minister Kasdi Merbah, who was appointed prime minister on 9 November 1988, has refused to resign. He stressed that the president of the Republic can terminate the government only when the National People's Assembly, that is, Parliament, issues a vote of no confidence.

In a statement to AFP by the prime ministry's information department, Merbah refused to be held responsible for the delay in the implementation of reforms that was implicitly attributed to him. He said the situation under which the current government was appointed and the delay in the implementation of political reforms did not give the government a chance to really exercise the powers vested in it by the Constitution.

Algerian President Chadli Bendjedid today decided to end Merbah's mission and to ask Mouloud Hamrouche, secretary general of the Presidency of the Republic, to form a new government.

More on Merbah's Refusal

LD1009131989 Paris International Service in French 1030 GMT 10 Sep 89

[Text] A real political arm-wrestling match is under way in Algeria between President Chadli Benjedid and the Prime Minister Kasdi Merbah. Kasdi Merbah, who was appointed to the post a year or so ago just after the riots in Algiers, was to have spearheaded the economic reform policy. President Chadli believes that the reforms are not proceeding quickly enough, and he therefore decided to put an end yesterday evening to the duties of Kasdi Merbah, who has been replaced by Mouloud Hamrouche, hitherto secretary general of the presidency. Kasdi Merbah, however, is refusing to resign, because he believes that the deputies alone have the right to terminate his duties. He does not want to be the only one to

bear responsibility for the delay in economic reforms. Kasdi Merbah was interviewed this morning on Algerian radio:

[Begin Merbah recording] I cannot understand at all the measures which have been taken. I consider that the situation as a whole has improved from the viewpoint of foreign finance, economy, and relations with the people. There are problems, I admit. There are shortages; there are some shortages; and there is the problem of tobacco which everyone knows about. If other leaders of this country acted in the same way things would be better than they currently are. What I mean, then, is that the authors of the situation (? were known), and as far as I am concerned, I am ready to bear my responsibility.

But I do not want to be told that I have made the situation worse. I say that I took (? over) a catastrophic situation. I controlled this situation, and I improved this situation. I certainly do not want to be made to bear responsibility for a situation that has been created by others. I have had neither sufficient time nor the constitutional means to tackle it. [end recording]

Merbah Justifies Refusal

LD1009122889 Paris Domestic Service in French 0530 GMT 10 Sep 89

[Text] Kasdi Merbah, the Algerian prime minister who has been dismissed from his post by President Chadli Bendjedid, has still not officially announced that he has agreed to go. He is refusing to make way for Mouloud Hamrouche because he believes that this reshuffle is unconstitutional. To those who reproach him for not being fast enough to implement reforms, Merbah has this to say:

[Begin Merbah recording] Following the tragic events of 5 October 1988, when the president of the Republic in response to popular pressure, I believe, offered me the post of prime minister, it was my duty to respond to the situation, which I did. I therefore harnessed myself to the task, a task which was difficult because at the same time it was necessary to confront an economic situation that was, it has to be said, catastrophic. I then discovered a deficit of 1 trillion [currency not specified] in the state treasury. Money had to be found quickly before 31 December to be able to meet payments. I did my best, and I found this money either by mobilizing the [word indistinct] of the IMF, or by finding (?a loan) of $200 million from Libya, or by speeding up negotiations for gas prices with the French, which enabled us to obtain $150 million. There was a lack of growth, the economy had broken down, and you cannot decently ask a government, no matter what kind of government it is, to restore such a complex situation in 9 months. [end recording]

APS Questions Merbah's Actions

LD1009155789 Algiers APS in English 1134 GMT 10 Sep 89

[Text] Algiers, 10 September (APS)—Yesterday afternoon a statement of the Presidency of the Republic announced the end of mission of the government of Kasdi Merbah and the designation of Mouloud Hamrouche as new head of government. Also in the afternoon an informant of AFP indicated that Kasdi Merbah refused to resign on the ground that only a vote of no confidence of the assembly could give possibility to the head of state to dismiss him from his post.

This information gives up some wonders about the recourse to foreign media mainly AFP, to formulate allegations of such a gravity, especially that the reference to the constitution is not exact. One must recall that article 74 paragraph [figure indistinct] of the Constitution provides that the president of the Republic "has the prerogative to name the head of government and dismiss him without any constitutional reserve or legal procedure. [no close quotation mark as received]

In a press conference he gave Saturday afternoon and which was attended by local and foreign journalists, Merbah tried to justify the weaknesses of his cabinet by mainly accusing the General Union of Algerian Workers to have shut down the efforts of the government. However, it is patently obvious that the union was, according to workers, the first one to applaude the government action. The other sides responsible for the sabotaging of the government programs are according to Merbah, the national press, mainly television and the weekly "ALGERIA ACTUALITE" which tarnished his image.

For the former head of government, the solution to the serious problems the country is facing were all reached. Didn't he propose to solve the crisis of unemployment and housing by such an irrealistic approach that it in fact led to the degradation of the social atmosphere, insecurity and the abdication of the state authority.

What can one conclude from the events which marked the end of the Merbah government? As far as it is known, it was President Chadli Bendjedid who called him to lead the government which was entrusted with carrying out the reforms. In this context, the head of state remains the first official vis a vis the nation. It is in this frame that he decided to send before the constitutional council some laws which raised a general outcry among observers and political parties which were both thanks to the new constitution.

Did Merbah, by refusing to abide by the constitutional decision of the president of the Republic dismissing him (and also by resorting to foreign media) try to act as an alternative to the highest office? Thus did be want to confront the constitutional power of the head of state? One must recall that President Chadli Bendjedid was elected by the Algerian people and that only the latter is judge of his action.

Merbah Agrees To Step Down

NC1009125989 Paris AFP in English 1218 GMT 10 Sep 89

[By Yves Leers]

[Excerpt] Algiers, Sept 10 (AFP)—Kasdi Merbah, who was sacked a Algeria's prime minister on Saturday but nonetheless refused to resign, said Sunday that he would step down and no longer intended to act "against the will" of Algerian President Chadli Bendjedid.

"My government was responsible to the national assembly," Mr Merbah told AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE, adding: "The constitution lacks clarity on the conditions of the nomination and departure of the head of government."

"I am a man of discipline, law and order, but also a man of democracy. The president is the head of state, and I can demand that the constitutional process is respected, but I know that it is pointless," he added.

Mr Merbah's remarks appeared to signal an end to the standoff between himself on one side and Mr. Chadli [as received] and the new prime minister-designate Mouloud Hamrouche on the other.

Mr Merbah said Saturday that the president had the power to dissolve the government only after a vote of no-confidence had been taken in the parliament, while Mr Chadli's office said the president had absolute authority to appoint and sack the prime minister.

Mr Merbah said he initially refused to submit his resignation because he wanted "to pose a constitutional problem."

Earlier, Algeria's official APS news agency accused Mr Merbah of trying to create an "alternative" to the country's supreme court.

APS noted that Mr. Chadli was elected to his office and asked whether Mr Merbah "wanted to confront the constitutional power of the head of state." [passage omitted]

Biography of New Prime Minister

LD1009130289 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 10 Sep 89

[Excerpt] The president of the Republic has carried out a change in government for the first time since the adoption of the Constitution on 23 February 1989. In Article 74, paragraph 5, the Constitution says that the president has the prerogative of appointing the prime minister and of ending his mandate without any constitutional reservation or legal measures. The prime minister presents the cabinet members he chooses to the president of the Republic who appoints them. Likewise, the prime minister defines his program and submits it to the Council of Ministers in accordance with Article 75 of the Constitution, and afterward the prime minister submits the program to the People's National Assembly for adoption in accordance with Article 76. In these circumstances when a new prime minister is appointed the ministers of the outgoing cabinet continue dealing with current affairs until the new government is appointed by the president of the Republic.

On this occasion the president of the Republic has insisted that the new prime minister assume as his main task to implement fully, energetically, and in the best conditions the political, economic, and social reforms in accordance with the letter and spirit of the Constitution. He also charged him with ensuring that the necessary measures are taken to emerge from the crisis and to confront the numerous pressures of the current situation in the framework of the Constitution and the economic, social, and educational reforms.

The president of the Republic has also charged the prime minister with ensuring that ways and means are promoted to enable the country to proceed fully to the new democratic rules in peace and quiet.

Mouloud Hamrouche, appointed prime minister by President of the Republic Chadli Bendjedid, was born 3 January 1943 in Constantine of a peasant family. He joined the national liberation army at 15. This close aide to the president is a former officer of the National People's Army. He has a degree in law, and a master's in political science. He was secretary general of the government from January 1984 to February 1986, the date of his appointment as secretary general of the presidency.

Mouloud Hamrouche has been a member of the National Liberation Front Central Committee since 1979. He is the son of a martyr and father to three children. He is committed to the course of the political reforms arising from the revision of the Constitution. [passage omitted]

Hamrouche Makes Statement

LD1009215189 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 1830 GMT 10 Sep 89

[Statement by Prime Minister Mouloud Hamrouche at the Presidency headquarters in Algiers on 9 September—recorded]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate.

Gentlemen: You have seen the communique of the President of the Republic Chadli Bendjedid and you were able to note the importance he attaches to the political, economic, and social reform apparatus in its entirety, so that the implementation of these reforms will continue until our country is able to enter in the best possible circumstances the era of democracy and progress, with the participation of all citizens in national construction, without favoring some at the expense of others.

What I can say today is that my main concern will be to acquaint the citizens with the great efforts we intend to

make in order to confront their acute problems and to address them continuously in the language of truth and clarity, so that confidence will be strengthened and hope will increase every day.

This evening I held my first working session with the secretary general and the executive secretaries of the FLN [National Liberation Front] Central Committee. During the meeting I outlined the major points that I will characterize as the bases of the government's program of action, which will be submitted to the National People's Assembly. At the meeting and during the extensive exchange of ideas, we acquainted ourselves with the vital necessity of organizing the necessary and permanent consultation with the strugglers and the social organizations, the societies, and the electors throughout the implementation of the government program, in all its aspects.

As for the priorities from which I intend to proceed when forming the government and proposing the program to the National People's Assembly, I can at present draw up for you their main outlines:

In the field of political reforms, I intend to quickly propose to the National People's Assembly projects for changing the laws that are being currently debated at the Assembly and the laws included in the timetable relating to the implementation of the reforms. The aim of this is to clearly express the will to implement the legal definitions that will lead to the tangible development of democracy.

In the field of social reforms, one must think about three initiatives. They will be embarked upon as soon as the government finds an effective system to ensure their implementation, in addition to creating a system of consultaion for managing wages among workers, managers, and the public authorities. This requires, first of all, educational reform. In the various stages of its implementation, one must ensure the independence of universities, institutes, and specialized schools, so that they have a tangible relationship to production and the employment market.

After this, comes reform of the programs and educational content based on a broad, real, democratic consultation with teachers, students, and societies.

Reform of the health and social security systems, so that all citizens can obtain good treatment while enabling those who practice general medicine to work under the best conditions and take part in promoting health care.

An employment program geared for youth along the same lines, democratically involving the youth themselves, local authorities, and institutions in these efforts and in their implementation.

In the field of economic reforms: laying down the priority list of government actions and preoccupations, and curbing the development of parasitical activities and the administrative management of the economy. The government will promote, in a coordinated manner, a body of fiscal and financial reforms. A series of draft bills will be submitted to the National People's Assembly, setting up a body for discharging foreign finance for the short, medium, and long terms, with the aim of easing pressures on the production and investment sectors thereby maintaining our country's economic independence.

To work with determination toward rehabilitating the ordinary economic and trade rules. Within these same preoccupations, I hope to speedily promote multifaceted subsidies to agricultural investments so as to quickly reassure the farmers, regardless of their legal position, and to stress their full responsibility in all fields of production and marketing at various levels. Also, the application of stable and fair rules in agricultural real estate transactions.

In the sphere of construction, we will encourage the clear and democratic allocation of land. The formulae governing the financing of construction will then be expanded and enriched to make them compatible with the citizen's saving capabilities, and to provide more opportunities to acquire housing and to make houses available.

It is a forgone conclusion that the government will resolutely adopt all necessary methods to allow public companies to fully exercise their authority in administering production independently. In this regard, the government will work to subsidize enterprises that suffer industrial and economic difficulties and to encourage them to exercise their responsibilities fully.

Our continuous concern in all areas should be directed toward making available more tangible and more direct methods that will permit the citizens to support with confidence and assurance government policy in the political, economic, and social fields, and participate in a decisive manner in carrying out reform, development, and democracy. Peace and God's blessings and mercy be upon you.

Holds News Conference

LD1009223789 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 1830 GMT 10 Sep 89

[Report on news conference by Prime Minister Mouloud Hamrouche at the Presidency headquarters in Algiers on 9 September—recorded]

[Text] [Announcer] Answering the submitted questions, the prime minister started by talking about the meeting he had this afternoon with the Executive Secretariat of the National Liberation Front [FLN] Central Committee. He said:

[Begin Hamrouche recording] To begin with, this was the first working meeting of the Executive Secretariat of the FLN Central Committee on the government's program. In this meeting I put before them the points which I

wanted to explain and expound on in the government's program. Naturally, we did not touch upon the question of personalities at this meeting; however, we focused on the general situation in the country, what solutions are needed by the homeland today, and what urgent measures should be taken. That was the sum total of the points of discussion this afternoon at the headquarters of the General Secretariat of the Central Committee.

Regarding the second part of your question, I cannot reply now and give a specific period; however, I would say that matters are clear and the situation is clear and that the statement of the president of the Republic and his expectations from this government in terms of political reforms devolves on me, as head of this government, to choose people who are committed to the reforms and, simultaneuously, are capable of continuing these reforms to their conclusion; they have to care for the homeland's economical and social problems. This situation compels me to think first of the structuring of the goverment before thinking of the people; this has not been done yet and I will try to inform you as soon as I finish with it. [end recording]

[Announcer] Replying to a question relating to the probability of involving some political groups in the formation of his new government, Mr Mouloud Hamrouche said:

[Begin Hamrouche recording] I did not say that we are going to form a government from all the existing political parties in our country. I said that, first, the statement clearly calls for the implementation of the reforms, there is a need for people who believe in those reforms, are committed to those reforms, and are aware of those reforms. The question of consultation means consultation within the sphere of government action; before making the decision or before formulating laws we will contact all those concerned with those laws and with the consequences of those laws. This is what I meant. However, it is premature to talk about persons from other parties. I would say it frankly. However, this does not eliminate the fact that the FLN does contain some sensitivities, and the other parties, which have emerged and are still emerging here and there, are in fact an element which existed before the FLN. Therefore, to talk these days of a 100 percent government is a matter which is not yet clear. When the FLN congress is be held, the picture will be clearer, particularly when the other parties and their militants and their leaderships emerge, then it will be clear if there are persons in the FLN who are simultanuously members of other parties.

[Question indistinct]

[Hamrouche] Actually, outwardly, the problem is difficult. It is difficult to reconcile it with continuing the political reforms, implementing them in the field, and shouldering the economic problems, the economic crisis, and finding solutions; this is apparent at first, but actually, all of them are interlinked. Political reform inevitably leads to reassuring everyone and to the participation of everyone; and consequently recruiting everyone to bring about solutions that are imposed by the economic and social conditions by way of consultation and dialogue, especially with the persons concerned; therefore I bank on the ability to reconcile the two operations simultaneously. [end recording]

[Announcer] The prime minister answered a question concerning his view of the national media. He said:

[Begin Hamrouche recording] In this field I am ahead of the brother journalists, or at least, if not all of them, some of the brother journalists; they know well my personal view on the matter before the introduction of this law and my attitudes toward the medeia in my capacity as prime minister, the current situation, and in accordance with the directives of the president of the Republic, who called for political reforms in the statement issued by the Presidency yesterday. Naturally, one cannot be more reassuring than the statement released by the president of the Republic, who charged me with this task, in addition to my personal conviction in this matter.

[Question indistinct]

[Hamrouche] Out of necessity, this is one of the first operations which the government is compelled to carry out, and quickly. But in order to prevent any misunderstanding or ambiguity, and so that my words will not be misinterpreted, the question of commodities and the question of the confusion of the market need deep-rooted treatment. It involves the reform of the entire commercial system. Naturally, someone might say that this requires time, but what I can reaffirm today is that we will try to deal with the causes and not the results, because the latter is but an outcome of the disturbances, for other reasons and obstacles which the citizen may not see or (?feel). Therefore the government action is first directed toward this disease and will not be directed toward the phenomena we experience every day in the street. Thus, the market will return to normal. [end recording]

Egypt

Mubarak, Delegation Begin Working Visit in Tunis

Ends Visit in Algeria

NC0809114989 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1055 GMT 8 Sep 89

[Text] Algiers, 8 Sep (MENA)—President Muhammad Husni Mubarak and his accompanying delegation left Algiers today for Tunis after a short visit and talks with Algerian President Chadli Bendjedid.

Arrives in Tunisia 8 Sep

NC0809131889 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1240 GMT 8 Sep 89

[Text] Tunis, 8 Sep (MENA)—President Muhammad Husni Mubarak arrived in Tunis from Algiers this afternoon at the beginning of a friendly and working visit to Tunisia.

Tunisian President Zine El Abidine Ben Ali was at the head of the welcoming committee at Carthage International Airport.

Statement After Meeting

NC0809184989 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1730 GMT 8 Sep 89

[Excerpts] President Muhammad Husni Mubarak left Tunis for Cairo this evening at the end of a brief visit, during which he held talks with Tunisian President Zine El Abidine Ben Ali on major Arab and African issues. [passage omitted]

Information Minister Safwat al-Sharif has stated that President Mubarak and the Tunisian president have agreed to cancel the entry visa requirement between Egypt and Tunisia as of tomorrow, 9 September.

The Tunisian president hosted a luncheon for President Mubarak and the delegation accompanying him this afternoon.

President Mubarak later received Arab League Secretary General Chedli Klibi, who praised President Mubarak's efforts to resolve the Palestinian issue, bolster Arab-African cooperation, and find a solution for the issue of Third World debts.

In a statement after his meeting with President Mubarak, Klibi said: We are closely following the important role being played by President Mubarak and the Egyptian Government in the African arena to clear the atmosphere and encourage understanding among the continent's countries.[passage omitted]

Before leaving Tunis, President Mubarak received Palestinian leader Yasir 'Arafat. The meeting was attended by 'Abdallah Hurani, member of the PLO Executive Committee; and Hakam Bal'awi, Palestinian ambassador in Tunis. During the meeting, the two leaders discussed developments in the Palestinian issue and the outcome of the nonaligned summit.

According to Palestinian sources, Mubarak and 'Arafat agreed to meet in Cairo soon.

Returns From Tunis 8 Sep

NC0809192589 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1835 GMT 8 Sep 89

[Excerpt] Cairo, 8 Sep (MENA)—President Muhammad Husni Mubarak returned to the homeland at 2115 today from Tunis, winding up a tour of Yugoslavia, Mauritania, Senegal, Algeria, and Tunisia. [passage omitted]

Comments on 'Successful' Trip

NC0909155489 Cairo MENA in English 1255 GMT 9 Sep 89

[Text] Cairo, Sep 9 (MENA)—President Husni Mubarak described as successful his hectic trip that wound up yesterday and included five countries, namely Yugoslavia, Mauritania, Senegal, Algeria, and Morocco.

He said that his talks with the leaders of the five countries were aimed at discussing different important Arab and African issues.

He added that the success of his trip would reflect positively on the domestic situation in Egypt as this success consolidates confidence and faith in Egypt's role and its weight in the world.

Assessing the role of the Nonaligned Movement in light of the Belgrade summit resolutions, President Mubarak told the editors of the Egyptian newspapers that there was no opposition by countries that participated in the summit regarding the idea of activating the movement particularly following the increase of problems of Third World countries which constitute the majority of the movement members.

President Mubarak said that the Nonaligned Movement (NAM) gives priority to the problems of the Third World, adding that the issues he raised in his speech before the NAM summit, especially those regarding regulating relations between the South were of interest to all the conferees.

He further said that promoting ties between the North and the South will help bring the effectiveness to the envisaged North-South dialogue.

He further said that the quadripartite initiative on the North-South launched by Egypt, Senegal, Venezuela, and India was joined by Yugoslavia.

In his statements President Husni Mubarak said that the members of the Nonaligned Movement were agreed on the need to develop the movement without deviating from its main objectives and principles.

He added that the nonaligned summit conference decided to form an economic ministerial committee to be seated in Caracas, Venezuela to discuss the economic problems of the Third World with the problem of the foreign debts in the lead.

He further said that the foreign ministers of the nonaligned countries will meet in Ghana in 1991 to follow up the executive steps of the nonaligned summit's resolutions.

On his visits to Algeria and Tunisia President Mubarak said that the visits came at invitations he received from the leaders of the two states while in Belgrade. He added

that he invited both leaders to visit Egypt, adding that President Chadli Bendjedid is expected in Egypt early next year.

President Mubarak said that the date of the visit by Tunisian President Zine el Abidine Ben Ali will be fixed later.

He said that his talks with the two leaders dealt with the Arab-Arab ties and the Afro-Arab ties. He further said that his talks with the Algerian leader dealt with the Lebanese crisis as well as Algerian leader Algeria is a member of the Arab League Tripartite Committee on Lebanon. [sentence as received] The president added that the Algerian leader informed him that there was hope that Syria would cooperate with the committee in its efforts to settle the situation in Lebanon.

He added that the foreign ministers of the committee namely Algeria, Morocco, and Saudi Arabia will meet in Riyadh on September 13 and that a summit by their leaders will follow theirs.

He added that King Fahd ibn 'Abd-al-'Aziz has postponed his visit to Washington to be able to attend this summit.

He added that in Tunis he reviewed with head of the Palestinian state Yasir 'Arafat the latest developments in the occupied Arab territories and the Palestinian cause.

On the Mauritanian-Senegalese dispute President Mubarak said that during his meetings with the leaders of the two countries he forwarded several ideas mainly to stop propaganda campaigns between the two countries, and resume diplomatic ties between them to contain the crisis until the six-man African committee assigned to mediate this difference meets in New York on October 5.

On his upcoming trips abroad, President Mubarak said that he will visit the United States and North Yemen. He added that on his way to New York later this month, he might make a stopover in Paris. He added that on September 29 he will deliver Africa's speech before the UN Security Council and on October 2 he will meet with U.S. President George Bush in Washington.

'Arafat To Discuss Mubarak's 10-Point Plan

NC0909130789 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1110 GMT 9 Sep 89

[Text] Cairo, 9 Sep (MENA)—President Husni Mubarak has stated that Palestinian President Yasir 'Arafat is currently studying the 10-point initiative which His Excellency submitted in order to solve the Palestinian issue.

In press remarks following the welcoming ceremony accorded to President Joao Beranrdo Vieira of Guinea-Bissau, President Mubarak said that 'Arafat will arrive in Cairo very soon to discuss all topics related to the Palestinian cause.

Answering a question on reports circulated by Israeli sources that say the Palestinians are not convinced about this initiative, President Mubarak said that the Palestinians have been given this initiative and that no one has objected to anything in it.

President Mubarak stressed that this initiative is in the interest of the Palestinians and their cause and that Egypt is not looking for any points in its own interest.

Arrives on 'Short' Visit

NC1109102189 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1001 GMT 11 Sep 89

[Text] Cairo, 11 Sep (MENA)—Palestinian President Yasir 'Arafat arrived here at noon today on a short visit to Egypt as part of the constant coordination between the Egyptian and Palestinian leaders. He was met at the airport by Dr Usamah al-Baz, first under secretary at the Foreign Ministry and director of the President's Office for Political Affairs; Sa'id Kamal, PLO representative in Cairo; and Zuhdi al-Qidrah, Fatah representative and PLO charge d'affaires in Cairo.

The Palestinian president is accompanied by PLO Executive Committee members 'Abdallah Hurani and Yasir 'Abd-Rabbuh.

PLO Official Comments on Plan

NC1009161089 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1025 GMT 10 Sep 89

[Text] Cairo, 10 Sep (MENA)—PLO Executive Committee member Mahmud 'Abbas, alias Abu-Mazin, has emphasized that the Egyptian Government's initiative on elections in the occupied territories is comprehensive. He noted that Egyptian and Palestinian leaders are constantly coordinating their activities at the international level.

In a statement to MENA, Abu-Mazin said that the Egyptian initiative is good, but unfortunately the Western and Israeli media focused only on the part dealing with the elections and left out the other parts. The leading Palestinian official reproached the United States for adopting the Israeli point of view, noting that the U.S. Administration is strangely insisting on [word indistinct] Shamir's plan for elections. He added that although we have repeatedly announced our acceptance of the principle of elections if they are within the context of an integral scenario for a comprehensive solution in the region, we reject this plan in bit and parcel.

Abu-Mazin added: Despite all this, the United States still views Shamir's plan as the basis, and therefore U.S.-Palestinian dialogue has not made any progress. He stressed that there is no intention at present to backtrack on the Palestinian peace initiative or to halt the dialogue with the United States, because it is the Palestine National Council that is authorized either to continue or back down on this policy.

It is worth noting that the Egyptian initiative is made up of the following 10 points:

1. Israel must pledge to accept the results of the elections in full.
2. To deploy international observers to supervise the voting.
3. To ensure a kind of immunity from trial for the elected Palestinian representatives.
4. The withdrawal of the Israeli troops from the voting areas during the elections.
5. An Israeli commitment to start talks for final settlement within a transition period of 3 or 5 years, as agreed upon.
6. To end all Israeli settlement activity.
7. To ensure full freedom of expression to all candidates.
8. To prevent Israelis from entering the occupied territories on election day.
9. Palestinians of East Jerusalem will be allowed to vote.
10. Israel must accept the principle of the exchange of land for peace as part of any final settlement.

Ab-Mazin emphasized that indirect exchanges are taking place between the PLO and some Israeli officials about elections inside the occupied Arab territories. He added that a number of these officials including Defense Minister Rabin believe that it is necessary to [word indistinct] our kinfolk in the occupied territories. Abu-Mazin maintained that the PLO rejects this notion completely. He pointed out that if Israel wants to negotiate, it should be with the PLO, which represents the Palestinian people both inside and outside the occupied land.

The PLO official went on to say that the PLO cannot accept any plans or ideas that originate from the occupied land because the Israelis still insist that the PLO should authorize the Palestinians in the occupied land to hold negotiations on the issue of elections. [sentence as received] This also represents the U.S. stand on the issue of elections.

Abu-Mazin added: If Israel wants a dialogue, we are prepared to form a delegation from inside and outside the occupied land to discuss the issue of elections as part of a complete comprehensive settlement. He affirmed that the Palestinian leadership will not suspend the dialogue with the progressive Israeli elements. He pointed out that the Palestine National Council [PNC] has adopted a decision to continue dialogue with the Israeli peace forces.

Asked about President Yasir 'Arafat's request for an entry visa to the United States to attend the UN General Assembly session, Abu-Mazin replied that the PLO Executive Committee has not yet decided anything.

PLO Executive Committee Member Abu-Mazin reiterated that the promotion of the dialogue with the United States is possible if the U.S. Administration presents its own ideas and new points for reaching a solution to the Arab-Israeli conflict. He noted that the United States is still presenting Israeli ideas without the contributing U.S. ideas.

Abu-Mazin denied reports that the Palestinian leadership intends to form a provisional government, adding that the PNC has authorized the Executive Committee to carry out the responsibilities of the provisional government. He maintained that there are not enough reasons at present to form this government.

Abu-Mazin affirmed that the Jordanian-Palestinian relations are continuously developing. He denied, however, that 'Arafat had proposed the revival of the canceled Jordanian-Palestinian agreement during the round of talks held between King Husayn and Abu-'Ammar in Amman during August. He praised Jordan's decision to resume purchase of Palestinian agricultural products from the West Bank and Gaza, noting that this decision is a sort of assistance to our kinfolk in the occupied land.

Concerning the PLO's assistance to the Lebanese military government under General Michel 'Awn, Abu-Mazin said: We are eager to safeguard Lebanon's unity, stability, and people. Likewise, we are keen to safeguard our people in Lebanon. From this premise we move to find a solution to the Lebanese problem. Abu-Mazin cautioned against an Israeli plot to deport 500,000 Palestinians from Lebanon to Jordan to establish sectarian cantons for the Christians, Shiites, Druze, and Sunnis.

U.S. Reaction to Proposal

NC0709142789 Cairo MENA in English 0642 GMT 7 Sep 89

[Text] Cairo, Sep 7 (MENA)—AL-AHRAM published on its front-page a dispatch by its correspondent in Washington and news dispatches from the American capital quoting U.S. officials as saying that the United States Government was holding consultations with a number of Arab states on the ten points President Husni Mubarak proposed with regard to holding elections in the occupied Palestinian lands and was trying to obtain Israel's support of these points.

The dispatches quoted a U.S. official as saying American diplomats were currently discussing these points with the Israeli Government and the Governments of a number of Arab states.

AL-AHRAM quoted another U.S. official as saying that the United States welcomed the Egyptian points because of the wide divergence in the positions of the Palestinians and Israel with regard to Israeli Prime Minister Yitzahq Shamir's plan for holding elections in the occupied lands. The Egyptian points were a means to pushing ahead the idea of elections in the occupied lands, the official said.

AL-AKHBAR published news dispatches from Washington and Jerusalem quoting a U.S. Department of State source as saying that the United States secretly supported President Mubarak's ten-point plan for holding elections in the Palestinian lands occupied by Israel.

Guinea-Bissau's Vieira, Mubarak To Begin Talks

NC0909182689 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1730 GMT 9 Sep 89

[Text] Dr Butrus Ghali, minister of state for foreign affairs, said that President Joao Bernardo Vieira of Guinea-Bissau will explain to President Mubarak the dimensions of the border dispute between Guinea-Bissau and Senegal and that he might ask President Mubarak to use his influence or to mediate an end to the dispute.

Mubarak Delivers Address

NC0909212289 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1840 GMT 9 Sep 89

[Text] Cairo, 9 Sep (MENA)—President Muhammad Husni Mubarak today hosted a dinner banquet in honor of Guinea-Bissau President Joao Bernardo Vieira. On this occasion, Mubarak delivered the following address:

Your Excellency President Vieira; Mrs Vierra; dear guests of Egypt: It is my pleasure to welcome you here tonight to this part of our blessed continent. It is also my privilege to express to you the affection and appreciation we feel toward you and your brotherly people. We wish you success in your efforts for development, construction, and progress.

We have followed the admirable and heroic struggle of your people for national liberation and for the liquidation of imperialism on this great continent. Your people have given a bright example to other nations which struggle in hard conditions to express their political and cultural identities, to defend their rights and interests, to lauch reconstruction and development efforts, and to serve the interests of the toiling masses.

You know well, my dear friend, that Egypt is eager to promote cooperation with all brotherly African nations. Egypt believes that its fate and interests are linked with those of African nations. Egypt also values copperation among the countries of the South, as a necessary step for the success of the dialogue between the North and South, in accordance with the guidelines and principles approved by African summits and the Nonaligned Movement. A few days ago, we took part in the ninth nonaligned summit in Belgrade. This summit urged a revival of the dialogue between advanced industrial countries and developing countries on a proper basis. There is a need to discuss sincerely all aspects of the international economic crisis and with an earnest desire to arrive at just and practical solutions. It is in the interest of all countries, regardless of how advanced or rich they may be, to see that a solution is found to the interconnected problems of the international economy.

President Mubarak said: Over the past few years, we have made a concentrated effort to increase cooperation and solidarity among African countries. We have sought to increase commercial and cultural exchange on the continent and strived to settle the existing disputes among African nations, for we believe that such disputes do not reflect any basic contradiction of ineresis but rather stem from temporary and superficial circumstances that can be eclipsed by other events and surmounted by goodwill and mediation.

In this context, I have conducted intensive consultations over the past few days with our brothers, the leaders of Mauritania and Senegal, with the aim of lessening the tension between the two countries and preparing for a cordial settlement of their problems. Members of the OAU mediation team and other African countries with some influence on Senegal and Mauritania are also working for the same end. I have found leaders of both nations willing to cooperate and I think that the current atmosphere would allow for positive results over the next few months.

Dear brothers and sisters:

I am confident that our upcoming talks will help further cooperation between our countries in all fields and will thus add to our common record of working for increased solidarity among all African nations.

Guinea-Bissau's President Gen Joao Bernardo Vieira delivered a speech. He said: I am confident that we will seize this opportunity to consolidate our fruitful cooperation by continuously searching for ways and means to strengthen and diversify this cooperation in accordance with the legitimate aspirations of our two brotherly peoples for development and prosperity.

The close link between the economies of states and the interdependence of contemporary international relations calls on us to turn our attention to consolidating and integrating our economies.

Guinea-Bissau is trying to deal with the serious economic crisis gripping our continent. This crisis has been aggravated by drought, desertification, the gradual deterioration in terms of trade, and the increase in foreign debts. Guinea-Bissau is attaching special importance to the work plan approved by the OAU in Lagos, which outlined a program and priorities for reviving the African economy, and to the joint African stand on the issue of foreign debts. This program aims at finding suitable solutions to this difficult situation, which is hampering development in Africa.

The Guinea-Bissau president said that the program of economic reforms which his government is implementing has led to the economic open-door policy. This policy has achieved greater and more effective participation by the private sector in the country's economy and has created incentives for investment. It has offered businessmen and investors the necessary guarantees to encourage them to participate effectively in the process of economic and social development in the country.

He added: There has been a satisfactory development in the international political situation characterized by an atmosphere of dialogue to find peaceful solutions to

regional conflicts in all parts of the world. But some differences still exist among the OAU member states, particularly in West Africa. We are confident that understanding will prevail and the process of dialogue will continue in order to solve these differences in accordance with African customs. [passage indistinct]

'Official Talks' Begin

NC1009140389 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1050 GMT 10 Sep 89

[Excerpt] Cairo, 10 Sep (MENA)—The official talks between President Husni Mubarak and President Joao Bernardo of Guinea-Bissau opened here this morning.

A responsible official source has stated that the 1-hour session was also attended by Dr Butrus Ghali, minister of state for foreign affairs, and members of the delegation accompanying President Bernardo. The official source added that during the session a friendship and cooperation agreement was signed between Egypt and Guinea-Bissau. The two countries also agreed to establish a joint committee.

During the talks, President Mubarak gave instructions to increase the number of Egyptian experts sent to Guinea-Bissau, particularly physicians and engineers. A joint statement was issued on the Guinea-Bissau president's visit. President Mubarak is expected to hold another round of talks with President Joao Bernardo tomorrow prior to his departure. [passage omitted]

Nation Supports Efforts To End Lebanese Crisis

NC1009114189 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0926 GMT 10 Sep 89

[Text] Riyadh, 10 Sep (MENA)—Dr 'Ismat 'Abd-al-Majid, Egyptian deputy prime minister and foreign minister, has stressed that the resumption of the Arab tripartite committee's efforts to find a solution to the Lebanese crisis has Egypt's support.

In a statement he made to the Saudi paper AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT while in Belgrade, Dr 'Abd-al-Majid said the tripartite committee's first attempts should not allow one to conclude that the committee's mission is over. He stressed the need for commitment to the Casablanca summit resolutions.

The Egyptian deputy prime minister and foreign minister also disclosed that he has not heard of any U.S. objection to grant Palestinian President Yasir 'Arafat an entry visa to the United States to deliver a speech before the United Nations.

President Receives Report on Abu-Ghazalah Tour

NC1009082589 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0739 GMT 10 Sep 89

[Text] Cairo, 10 Sep (MENA)—President Husni Mubarak received Muhammad 'Abd-al-Halim Abu-Ghazalah, assistant to the president, and Dr 'Atif 'Ubayd, minister of cabinet affairs and minister of state for administrative development, at the presidential palace this morning.

During the meeting, Abu-Ghazalah and Dr 'Ubayd submitted a report to the president on their contacts during their visits to Bonn, Paris, and Bucharest.

The assistant to the president and Dr 'Ubayd returned to Cairo from Bucharest last night at the conclusion of their tour of France, the FRG, and Romania.

'Abd-al-Majid, Delegation Leave for Tunis 11 Sep

NC1109103189 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0851 GMT 11 Sep 89

[Excerpt] Cairo, 11 Sep (MENA)—Dr 'Ismat 'Abd-al-Majid, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, and an accompanying delegation left Cairo this morning for Tunis. Following Egypt's readmission to the Arab League, they will, for the first time in 10 years, attend the meetings of the Arab foreign ministers.

In a predeparture statement, Dr 'Abd-al-Majid said that the meetings, due to take place between 12 and 14 September, are of particular importance in view of the important topics to be discussed. These include the Palestinian issue, the Lebanese problem, and the situation in the Gulf, he stated. He added that the meetings will give the Egyptian delegation a chance to hold talks with the other Arab delegations that are participating, so that Arab stands may be coordinated before the forthcoming UN General Assembly session.

The Egyptian delegation comprises Ambassadors Ismail 'Abd-al- Mu'ti, 'Amr Musa, Ihab Wahbah; Ambassador Plenipotentiary Mustafa 'Abd-al-'Aziz, director of the deputy prime minister's office; and Counselor Husayn Haridi. [passage omitted]

Trade Unionists Leave for Damascus 8 Sep

NC0809184089 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1741 GMT 8 Sep 89

[Text] Cairo, 8 Sep (MENA)—Ahmad al-'Amawi, head of the General Federation of Trade Unions, left Cairo for Damascus today. Al-'Amawi, who was accompanied by a delegation, will spend several days in Syria at the invitation of the Syrian Federation of Trade Unions, to discuss relations between labor organizations in the two countries.

FRG To Finance Technical Cooperation Projects

NC1009204589 Cairo MENA in English 1732 GMT 10 Sep 89

[Text] Cairo, Sep 10 (MENA)—The meeting of the joint Egyptian-West German Committee for Economic and Technical Cooperation has resulted in Germany's financing several projects worth 235 Deutsch Marks.

Dr Hasan Salim, first under secretary of the Ministry of International Cooperation, said an agreement was also signed with West Germany for the year 1989 and for financing several projects within the framework of technical cooperation, totaling about 33 million marks.

Dr Salim has chaired the Egyptian delegation to meetings of the joint committee.

Libya

Report of Al-Qadhdhafi Apology to 'Arafat Denied

LD0809185989 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1828 GMT 8 Sep 89

[Text] Tripoli, 8 Sep (JANA)—The Yugoslav agency TANJUG disseminated a report on 6 September in which it alleged that, during his stay in Belgrade the brother leader of the revolution had a meeting with Brother Yasir 'Arafat which was held at the brother leader of the revolution's request. It [TANJUG] described the purpose of the meeting as offering apologies for something that was said in the brother leader of the revolution's speech at the Belgrade summit.

JANA's local affairs editor criticized these allegations and said: The content of the aforementioned report is a blatant lie which is not based on truth. The views, proposals, and stands articulated in the brother leader of the revolution's speech are firm principles which are not open to discussion or compromise.

Spokesman Rebuts Italian Remarks on Reparations

LD0709203389 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1928 GMT 7 Sep 89

[Text] Tripoli, 7 Sep (JANA)—In a statement made on 6 September, the Italian Foreign Ministry's official spokesman pointed out that the question of reparation for damages caused by the Italian occupation of Libya was considered as settled according to the 1956 agreement signed between the royalist former regime and the Italian Government of that time.

Commenting on that statement, a spokesman for the People's Committee of the People's Bureau for Foreign Liaison and International Cooperation said: The 1956 agreement referred to by the Italian Foreign Ministry's official spokesman does not deal with the question of reparations in any way and no mention of it is made in any of its clauses. The agreement only points out a meager sum which is almost not worthy of mention, and which it describes as a contribution toward the rebuilding of the Libyan economy.

As the question of reparations is not mentioned in the said agreement, this question is still being submitted by the Basic People's Congresses in the Great Jamahiriyah. They have decided not to relinquish the right that has been guaranteed for it by all international rules and charters. We believe that if this question is dealt with responsibly and objectively and through serious talks, the correct solution will be found that will secure the legitimate rights of the Libyan Arab people and open the way for a new stage in the development of relations between the two countries.

Sudan

Government Invites Garang for Khartoum Talks

EA0809141089 Omdurman Domestic Service in English 1945 GMT 7 Sep 89

[Text] [Words indistinct] of the Revolution Command Council and chairman of the Steering Committee for the National Dialogue on the Question of Peace, Brigadier [word indistinct] Muhammad al-Amin Khalifah, announced that he had monitored from the news agencies that Colonel Garang had expressed his readiness to attend the conference in Khartoum but that he wanted guarantees. Brig Khalifah assured his personal protection and guarantee. He said if Garang is ready to come, he is welcome.

This came in a press conference today at the Friendship Hall on the national dialogue on peace. He said the revolution has announced the cease-fire, allowed the continuation of the Operation Lifeline as well as it has announced a general amnesty. Brig Muhammad al-Amin Khalifah, reviewed the past situation and efforts exerted by the salvation revolution to solve the country's internal and external problems. He explained the last negotiation meeting with Garang's movement and its results for restoring confidence between the two sides. He said the revolution is beginning an entire national dialogue as of next Saturday to which an invitation was extended to the movement to attend. He added that the movement had received the invitation but no official response.

Brig Khalifah announced the formation of five committees for the dialogue represented in the formation committee the origin of the problem and its history committee, a committee for reviewing the previous solutions, a committee for reviewing the effects of the current war and the committee for the drafting of the final report. The conference was attended by representatives of the international and national news agencies and correspondents.

Garang Not To Attend

AB0909080489 London BBC World Service in English 0730 GMT 9 Sep 89

[From the "African News" program]

[Text] A spokesman for the rebel Sudan People's Liberation Army [SPLA] has said its leader, Colonel John Garang, will not be attending the peace conference due to begin today in Khartoum. The SPLA spokesman in Nairobi, Mr (Nam Akor), said this was because the new military government in Sudan had not responded to a

series of SPLA conditions which included the lifting of the state of emergency and the release of all political prisoners in Sudan.

The government has said that it will proceed with the conference without the SPLA, which, it said, did not represent Sudan or southerners. More than 1,000 delegates are due to attend the peace conference which is expected to last for 1 month and is aimed at finding a solution to Sudan's 6-year old civil war.

SPLA Official Comments

AB0809211089 London BBC World Service in English 1615 GMT 8 Sep 89

[From the "Focus on Africa" program]

[Text] It is pretty unlikely that John Garang, leader of the southern Sudan rebels of the SPLA [Sudan People's Liberation Army], will attend the big, last-minute peace conference called by Sudan's military leader, General al-Bashir. It it due to start tomorrow, last a month, and involve more than a thousand people. Garang was invited, but he had laid down tough conditions for going, among them, the lifting of the state of emergency, freeing of political prisoners, unbanning political parties and unions, liberating the press, and so on. In Nairobi, Lucy Hammond asked the SPLA spokesman, (Will Eko), why they did not go to the meeting anyway and discuss those issues there.

[Begin recording] [(Eko)] Who forms the committee? When we are talking about the national (?constitutional) conference, it was supposed to be a body agreed upon by all the political forces and the trade unions together, and not that a government forms the committee and then we are coopted or invited to attend. This has always been the center of the problem in the Sudan: the idea of somebody deciding on behalf of others and then inviting the other people to attend. So basically, the concept itself is faulty, and therefore we cannot be a party to it.

[Hammond] If Garang has said he will not go to Khartoum, will he still pursue peace negotiations in Addis?

[(Eko)] Now the ball actually is in the court of the government in Khartoum, because last time, following the breakdown of talks in Addis, it was expected that they would come out with a new proposal or at least adopt ours, or discuss ours, and come to us, and then we fix another date for the meeting. Now, if the government had proceeded to form a committee of its own, that is, to discuss key issues, it means, logically, that we will have to wait until that committee comes out with whatever recommendations they have for the peace proposal on the side of the government; otherwise it would become an irrelevant committee, because you cannot form a committee and then come to talk peace when that committee has not even started its business yet.

[Hammond] When Garang first made his response to the government, he set out certain conditions, and he said that if the government was not prepared to cooperate, then the SPLA would also be prepared to participate in military aspects and cause a popular uprising. I mean, at what point are you going to consider that the government is not cooperating any more?

[(Eko)] Those proposals are meant to be discussed between us and the junta and political forces in the country. So there were two alternatives, being either all sides agree to discuss it and therefore the revolution is brought about peacefully—and this depends on the junta because it is the one which underrated everybody and claimed to be the only voice of Sudan—or, alternatively, if they refuse, they become intransigent and they insist on a military option, then our suggestion was that we would work together with other political forces to bring them down by popular uprising, including a military option inside the capital.

[Hammond] So, at what time will you decide that the other option has to be followed?

[(Eko)] Well, it will be decided by Khartoum. As you already know, the leader of the military junta in Khartoum has declared publicly that they are now ready to fight if the SPLA does not accept Shari'ah law. And it is Khartoum which should be asked when will they start fighting, not us.

[Hammond] Well, you are saying that you will not initiate fighting. When I was in southern Sudan, I saw a lot of SPLA troops being moved up toward Juba. You say you are not actually preparing to attack Juba?

[(Eko)] Well, we are not... [changes thought] I am not going to discuss military operations on a microphone, but any armed group, if you have not signed a truce, you have to be prepared to defend yourself. And since somebody had declared publicly that he is willing to fight us, we cannot sit hand-tied and wait. He has notified his forces. So we have to prepare ourselves to defend ourselves. [end recording]

Garang 'Cannot Accept' Invitation

EA0909155789 (Clandestine) Radio of the Sudanese People's Liberation Army in Arabic 1300 GMT 8 Sep 89

[Station commentary]

[Text] Dear listeners, good afternoon. The ball is now in the clique's court. The members of the National Salvation Revolutionary Command Council [NSRCC] wanted to invite the comrade commander in chief, Dr John Garang de Mabior, to address the Committee of 77 in Khartoum. The reaction was prompt, clear, and decisive.

Khartoum is the capital of our country and any meeting aimed at discussing peace in our country, has our support. But reality indicates, beyond any doubt, that such an invitation cannot be accepted, particularly at the present time. First, Khartoum itself has been under curfew for more than 2 months and the whole country is

under emergency law, with the exception of liberated areas. We do not need to prove that arbitrary arrests are taking place. Kobar prison is full of political and trade union detainees. No one feels secure—not even the members of the ministerial council. The hand of the clique reaches everywhere. The law is no longer sovereign and respect for public freedom has disappeared. All public and democratic institutions such as trade unions and parties have been abolished. Even gatherings are prohibited and punishments are severe.

[Word indistinct] the leaders of the NSRCC in many of the resolutions they have issued since they overthrew democratic rule. It is, therefore, impossible for the comrade commander in chief to address the meeting in Khartoum while the state of emergency and curfew are still in force and arbitrary arrests are taking place.

This is on the one hand. On the other, any discussion of peace in the absence of democracy and without the participation of political and trade union forces is hopeless and useless. A dialogue about peace has to encompass all the different views so that the active forces in our country can arrive at common principles, for the promotion and realization of democratic and social rights for our people, and for the establishment of a strong (?force) made up of different citizens. A government which dismisses scores of members of the regular forces and civil service, and which makes such a reckless attack on all patriots, cannot be relied upon. Peace can never be achieved in its shadow.

The Sudanese People's Liberation Movement/Sudanese People's Liberation Army does not represent the views of all political forces in our country, nor does it claim to. But a just peace needs efforts and perseverance by everyone. Therefore, the minimum conditions, cited by the official spokesman, for accepting the invitation to address the Committee of 77, are the creation of an atmosphere conducive to trust which will ensure freedom of opinion and freedom of discussion itself. We hope that those who issued the invitation will ponder this thoughtfully and wisely. If their credibility as people who want to establish peace in a democratic atmosphere were to be established, everybody would be able to participate and express their opinions—something which is essential for the cause of peace. Just peace and democracy cannot be achieved if the two sides merely strike a bargain, without the participation of other forces.

Realization of these demands would open the way to a just peace and democracy. Will those who issued the invitation respond?

Al-Bashir Renews Invitation

EA0909161889

[Summary From Poor Reception] Khartoum SUNA in Arabic at 1035 GMT on 9 September reports that Lieutenant General 'Umar al-Bashir has renewed his invitation for John Garang, leader of the Sudanese People's Liberation Army, to attend the conference of the Committee of 77, which opened in Khartoum today. At the same, it notes that he rejected all previous agreements with the rebels reached under Al-Sadiq al-Mahdi's administration.

Reporting on the first point of al-Bashir's speech, SUNA said:

"Lt Gen 'Umar Hasan Ahmad al-Bashir, chairman of the National Salvation Revolutionary Command Council, has renewed his invitation to Colonel John Garang, leader of the rebel movement, to attend the national dialogue conference which began its business in Khartoum today. He confirmed that the government would provide all the security guarantees for Garang [words indistinct] to participate in the conference. Lt Gen 'Umar al-Bashir said this in his address to this morning's opening session of the national dialogue conference".

SUNA continues: "Referring to the second point, Lt Gen 'Umar al-Bashir said that the cause of peace is the cause of the Sudanese people, in particular the southerners themselves, who have been displaced internally by the war. He said: We regard the southerners as a basic element in the peace process, an element that must not be forgotten or ignored. He said the revolution expected them to participate effectively in this dialogue, so as to achieve the expected formula.

"Referring to the third point, the lieutenant general stressed that the revolution rejected all the agreements reached during the previous regime. He described them as abortive and flimsy. He added that all the previous agreements lacked guidance and clarity of vision and wasted a lot of Sudan's time in warlike intrigues and conspiracies."

Al-Bashir Sets Guidelines

EA0909193489 Khartoum SUNA in English 1645 GMT 9 Sep 89

[Text] Khartoum, 9 September—Gen 'Umar Hasan Ahmad al-Bashir has detailed five guidelines to be followed by the conferees in "the national dialogue on peace issues" which started today and continues for a month. (?He said) the first pillar is that peace is a humanitarian, religious and social issue of prime importance stressed by all and every divine religion.

He added that the second pillar is that peace is the concern of all Sudanese and, in particular, southerners who are inside Sudan and who are driven by the war to the north or affected by it.

Gen 'Umar Hasan Ahmad al-Bashir, chairman of the National Salvation Revolution Council, has renewed the invitation for rebel leader John Garang to attend "the national dialogue on peace issues" encounter. Addressing the opening session today, Gen 'Umar said the government gives Garang every assurance and guarantees to attend the month-long sessions of the encounter.

Gen al-Bashir said the revolution rejects all the previous submissive atmosphere which created "weak and unsuccessful agreements". Detailing the third pillar, Gen 'Umar said that previous agreements have lost objectives and lost precious time and energy at the expense on the nation.

Gen al-Bashir said the fourth pillar is that the revolution recognises the cultural diversity of the country and seeks to find a form of government which takes into account this diversity and give freedom of belief to every citizen within the united Sudan.

Touching on the fifth and final pillar, Gen 'Umar al-Bashir said the critical questions of the Sudan are solvable provided that they be approached with an open mind. He said foreign pressures that are contradicting Sudan's national interests should be cast away and the shortcomings of the previous peace tentatives be dropped.

He said the outcome of the month-long sessions will be the revolution's formula on expressing the national will of the Sudan. Gen al-Bashir said the form of government to be reached by the encounter should take into consideration and stress on "the cultural diversity within the national unity of the Sudan". He said it should also underline the freedom of belief and practice and the right of participation in government on equal footing, besides the equal distribution of wealth.

Tunisia

Egyptian President Mubarak Arrives on Visit

LD0809124189 Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 8 Sep 89

[Excerpt] Egyptian President Muhammad Husni Mubarak arrived in Tunis at 1300 today. President Zine El Abidine Ben Ali was at the steps of the aircraft to welcome Tunisia's revered guest. [passage omitted]

Press Statement on Visit

LD0909044289 Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic 2200 GMT 8 Sep 89

[Press statement on visit by Egyptian President Muhammad Husni Mubarak, issued 8 September]

[Text] At the invitation of his brother President Zine El Abidine Ben Ali, His Excellency Muhammad Husni Mubarak, president of the Arab Republic of Egypt, paid a friendly and working visit to the Tunisian Republic on Friday, 8 September 1989. Talks between the two presidents focused on the development of bilateral relations and ways of strengthening them in line with the depth of the historic ties between the brotherly Tunisian and Egyptian peoples. The two presidents agreed that the greater joint commission should meet under the chairmanship of the prime minister of the Tunisian republic and the Egyptian prime minister within the next few weeks to look into all aspects of bilateral cooperation.

As a means of consolidating the fraternal relations between the two peoples and facilitating the movement of the two countries' nationals, they decided to cancel entry visa requirements as of today, Saturday, September 1989.

The two presidents discussed issues of mutual interest and the most important issues in the Arab, African, and international arenas. They reaffirmed their full support for the blessed intifadah [uprising] of the Palestinian people under the leadership of the PLO, and their standing by it in its struggle to regain all the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people, and in the efforts made by the PLO to reach a peaceful, just, and comprehensive settlement.

Concerning Lebanon, the two presidents again expressed their concern over the prevailing situation in that brotherly country and reaffirmed their support for the efforts made by supreme Arab tripartite commission, which aim at securing the maintenance of Lebanon's Arabism, unity, and political independence.

On the situation in the Gulf region, the two presidents expressed their support for brotherly Iraq in its efforts to strengthen the process of peace in the region.

On reviewing the situation in Africa, President Zine El Abidine Ben Ali expressed his appreciation of the role played by His Excellency President Muhammad Husni Mubarak in his capacity as chairman of the OAU, of consolidating harmony and fraternity among African brothers, and the efforts made by him as leader of the African reconciliation committee—of which Tunisia is a member—to establish harmony and concord between those two brotherly countries, Mauritania and Senegal.

The two presidents reaffirmed their condemnation of the apartheid policy in southern Africa, and their support for UN efforts to hold free and honest elections in Namibia so that the Namibian people may attain full independence under the national leadership of the Southwest Africa People's Organization.

The two presidents reviewed the result of the Ninth Nonaligned Summit Conference held in Belgrade recently and expressed their satifaction at the positive development they noted in the work of that organization during their participation in the summit, and the encouraging results it led to in the field of cooperation among nonaligned countries, dealing with the various problems they are facing and its role in consolidating harmony, security, and stability in the world. The two president also discussed the foreign debt crisis suffered by Third World countries and stressed the need to treat the crisis by dialogue and cooperation between developing and industrial countries in order to overcome the negative effects of the debts that are obstructing development efforts in the Third World in general, and particularly in Africa.

The two presidents agreed to intensify consultation and to consolidate coordination at various levels between the two governments, especially in regional and international gatherings.

His Excellency President Muhammad Husni Mubarak expressed his gratitude for the generous hospitality and warm welcome accorded to him by his brother, President Zine El Abidine Ben Ali, and by the Tunisian people. His Excellency President Muhammad Husni Mubarak expressed his appreciation and respect for the historic change experienced in Tunisia since 7 November [1987]. His Excellency President Muhammad Husni Mubarak addressed an invitation to President Zine El Abidine Ben Ali to pay an official visit to the Arab Republic of Egypt, which Ben Ali accepted with thanks. The date will be set later.

Oman

Military Delegation Leaves for Cairo

JN0909140889 Muscat Domestic Service in Arabic 1300 GMT 9 Sep 89

[Text] His Excellency Staff Major General Khamis Humayd al-Kalbani, commander of the Omani ground forces, left the country for Cairo this morning leading a military delegation on an official visit of several days at the invitation of the Egyptian Defense Ministry.

The delegation head and members will meet with senior Egyptian military commanders and will visit some Egyptian military installations, factories, and units. The delegation was seen off by Defense Ministry officials.

PLO Official Arrives on Visit 10 Sep

JN1009151689 Muscat Domestic Service in Arabic 1300 GMT 10 Sep 89

[Text] Husayn Sabir Sa'idun, alias Abu-Sabir, representative of the PLO's office in Dubayy, arrived this morning in Oman. Abu-Sabir will meet with a number of Omani officials to exchange views. He was received by a number of Foreign Ministry officials.

Conveys Letter From Qaddumi

JN1109143689 Muscat Domestic Service in Arabic 1300 GMT 11 Sep 89

[Text] His Highness Haytham Ibn-Tariq Ibn-Taymur, Foreign Ministry undersecretary for political affairs, received this morning Husayn Sabir Sa'idun, the Dubayy representative of the PLO. He conveyed greetings from President Yasir 'Arafat of the State of Palestine to His Majesty Sultan Qabus Ibn-Sa'id and gave him a letter from Faruq Qaddumi, head of the PLO Political Department, addressed to His Excellency Yusuf Ibn-'Alawi Ibn-'Abdallah, minister of state for foreign affairs.

They exchanged views on bilateral ties and the latest Palestinian developments.

PDRY

Relations With U.S. To Resume 'This Month'

NC0809173589 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1645 GMT 8 Sep 89

[Text] Riyadh, 8 Sep (MENA)—Haydar Abu-Bakr al-'Attas, chairman of the Supreme People's Council Presidium in the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen [PDRY], has declared that his country intends to restore diplomatic relations with the United States before the end of this month in the wake of the successful efforts made by a third party, which he did not name.

In an interview with the Saudi newspaper AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT today, Al-'Attas said the matter of his country's joining the Arab Cooperation Council has not yet been decided. The issue is still under discussion, he stated.

The PDRY leader described the course of the unionist steps between the two parts of Yemen as good, adding that preparations are underway to convene a summit with President 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih of the Yemen Arab Republic soon, when certain matters have been clarified.

Yemen Arab Republic

Ethiopian Party Official Arrives on Visit

JN0909184689 Sanaa Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 9 Sep 89

[Text] Member of the Workers Party of Ethiopia [WPE] Central Committee [name indistinct] arrived in Sanaa today heading a delegation on a visit to our country during which he will convey a message to President Colonel 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih from Mengistu Haile Mariam, secretary general of the WPE Central Committee, president of the republic, and commander in chief of the Ethiopian Armed Forces.

In a statement to SABA' News Agency, the Ethiopian official explained that the message deals with bilateral relations as well as peace and security in north Ethiopia.

He was received by Brother 'Abd-al-Hamid al-Hajji, chairman of the Standing Committee Culture and Orientation Committee; a representative for the presidency protocol; and the Ethiopain ambassador in Sanaa.

Salih Receives Ethiopian Envoy

JN1009124389 Sanaa Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 10 Sep 89

[Text] Brother Colonel 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, president of the Republic, commander in chief of the Armed Forces, and secretary general of the General People's Congress, received in his office today (Kasaki), member of the Workers Party of Ethiopia [WPE] Central Committee. He conveyed to the president leader a message from President Mengistu Haile Mariam, WPE Central Committee secretary general, president of the Republic, and commander in chief of the Armed Forces of Socialist Ethiopia.

The message deals with bilateral relations, developments in the Horn of Africa, and the efforts exerted to achieve peace in that region.

The meeting was attended by (Qarma Wolde-Mariam), Ethiopia's ambassador in Sanaa; and (Zaman Kasso), Ethiopia's ambassador to Egypt.

Iraq Denies Mistreatment of Iranian POW's

JN0809165789 Baghdad INA in English 1610 GMT 8 Sep 89

[Text] United Nations, Sept. 8, INA—The Iraqi mission to the United Nations has accused Iran of "fabrications that have no foundation in truth" on the subject of the treatment of Iranian prisoners of war in Iraq.

In a letter addressed to U.N. Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar which was distributed to the Security Council today, Charge d'Affaires of the Iraqi U.N. Mission Sabah Tal'at Kadrat stated that the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) and the United Nations are fully aware of the situation of Iranian prisoners of war in Iraq because of the regular monthly visits carried out by the ICRC delegation in Baghdad to the camps in which Iranian prisoners are held.

Responding to allegation made in an Iranian letter to the United Nations, the Iraqi ambassador noted that Iraq adheres strictly to humanitarian values and international instruments, including the 1949 Geneva Convention relative to the treatment of prisoners of war.

At the same time, the letter said, Iranian authorities do not permit ICRC to visit Iraqi prisoners in a sufficiently regular manner, and "Iraqi prisoners of war live in pitiful conditions and are subjected to the most extreme forms of torture, to [word indistinct] a variety of psychological and intellectual pressures in order to sway their loyalty to their country and alter their religious and political beliefs."

Iraq noted that ICRC representatives have informed it of the disappearance of more than 7,000 persons from the Iranian prison camps in which Iraqi prisoners registered with the committee are held, "and nothing is known of their destiny up to the present moment. [no end quotation mark as received]

POW's Wives, Sons Visit UN Headquarters

JN0909102489 Baghdad INA in English 1000 GMT 9 Sep 89

[Text] United Nations, Sept. 9, INA—A delegation of wives and sons of Iraqi prisoners of war (POWs) held in Iran visited last night United Nations Headquarters in New York, where they met with U.N. Legal Counselor Ralph Zacklin about the plight of their husbands and fathers.

Accompanied by the charge d'affairs of the Iraqi U.N. Mission, they presented letters urging the international community to put pressure on Iran for the safe release of their dear ones so they could return to their homes.

One of the Iraqi women, whose five-year-old son has with her, said the boy had never seen his father who is in one of the Iranian camps.

The Iraqi delegation will also visit the United Nations center for human rights and the New York office of Amnesty International to reiterate their plea for the international community to help secure the release of the prisoners of war.

Official Addresses IPU London Conference

JN0809165589 Baghdad INA in English 1445 GMT 8 Sep 89

[Text] London, Sept. 8, INA—Iraq has called on the international community to pressurize the Iranian regime in order to implement articles of the UN Security Council Resolution 598 for reaching an agreement on a permanent and comprehensive peace via direct negotiations, and immediate release of the prisoners of war (POWs) without a condition of extortion at the expense of those POWs' and their families' sufferings.

Head of the Iraqi national Assembly delegation 'Abd-al-Qadir 'Abd-al-Razzaq al-Janabi said in his address given this morning at the public sitting of the Interparliamentary Union conference during its discussion of the 5th article of its agenda on the political, economic and social situation in the world, that Iraq confirmed its true desire to achieve the comprehensive and permanent peace in the Arab Gulf region and its rejection of the current state of no-war-no-peace produced by the Iranian stubbornness.

He pointed out that the UN Resolution 598 is a peace plan aiming at achieving the comprehensive and durable peace between Iraq and Iran under aegis of the UN. He said "another interpretation of the resolution as a whole or of some of its articles aims actually at keeping the state of no-war-no-peace, which is a danagerous state endangering the regional and international peace and security."

Mr. al-Janabi has confirmed Iraq's adherence to August 8, 1988 agreement on holding real direct negotiations confirming to the contemporary approach and the international law that would not give any one an advantage at the expense of the other.

Mr. al-Janabi said that August 8 Agreement was clear in its commitment to the direct negotiations' inclusion of all subjects and articles of the Resolution 598 except the subject of POWs release as was supported by the International Committee of the Red Cross according to Article 118 of Geneva's 3rd Convention for 1949 on the POWs and text of the 3rd article of the Security Council resolution.

Head of the Iraqi delegation said that President Saddam Husayn had many times took initiatives to tackle the question of the POWs, especially his initiative on March 5, 1989 for a comprehensive repatriation of the Iraqi and Iranian POWs regardless of future of the negotiations and under an international guarantee of not returning them to the Armed Forces until peace was realised.

Mr. al-Janabi has added that Iraq has discharged more than 203 thousands soldiers, frozen formations of the

people's Army and began in re-building the town of al-Faw after the completion of reconstruction of Basra. "These are practical indicators of our sincere desire for comprehensive, just and durable peace with Iran, whereas Iran's rulers attitude has remained always negative concernign the Security Council Resolution 598 and other peaceful initative."

Head of the National Assembly delegation called in his address all the world parliamentarians to support the Palestinian people's just rights to self-determination and establishment of its national independent state on its national soil under leadership of the Palestine Liberation Organization, its legitimate and sole representative.

He demanded support for the efforts exerted for holding the international peace conference on the Middle East, previously adopted by the UN, with participation of all concerned parties including the PLO at the same footing and attendence of the Security Council five permanent member states.

On the situation in Lebanon, address of the Iraqi National Assembly delegation called for withdrawal of the Israeli, the Iranian and the Syrian forces from the Lebanese territories and leaving the Lebanese people the freedom to determine its destiny and choose its own system in addition to spreading its sovereignty on its homeland by its legitimate forces.

Head of the delegation demanded for halting the carnage and ruin perpetrated by the Zionist conspiratorial alliance and achieving the national reconciliation among the Lebanese.

Mr. al-Janabi wished at the conclusion of his address that outcomes of London conference would be a new contribution to deepen the democratic parliamentary dialogue and tackle the current crisis, solve the international problems and support the world nations' security, safety and prosperity.

UNIIMOG Commander Arrives From Tehran

JN1009115789 Baghdad INA in Arabic
1115 GMT 10 Sep 89

[Text] Baghdad, 10 Sep (INA)—SFRY General Slavko Jovic, commander of the UN Iran-Iraq Military Observer Group [UNIIMOG], arrived in Baghdad from Tehran this morning.

The UNIIMOG commander's visit to Iraq falls within the framework of his shuttle trips between Baghdad and Tehran to supervise the work of the UN observers on the Iraqi side.

Gen Slavko Jovic was welcomed at the airport by his assistant working on the Iraqi side and a number of officers affiliated with the committee tasked with coordinating the UN observers.

Transport Minister Leaves for Sweden 10 Sep

JN1009082489 Baghdad INA in Arabic
0700 GMT 10 Sep 89

[Text] Baghdad, 10 Sep (INA)—Transport and Communications Minister Muhammad Hamzah left for Sweden today to head the Iraqi side to the meetings of the Joint Iraqi-Swedish Committee for Economic, Trade, and Technical Cooperation which will begin here tomorrow, Monday.

In a statement to INA, the minister said that the committee will discuss Iraqi-Swedish relations in the economic, trade, and technical spheres.

The minister indicated that the agenda of the committee meetings contains a discussion of important issues with Swedish trade and industrial firms in all spheres to enhance bilateral relations.

Vietnamese Communications Minister Departs

JN0909111089 Baghdad INA in Arabic
1020 GMT 9 Sep 89

[Text] Baghdad, 9 Sep (INA)—Vietnamese Communications and Transportation Minister Bui Danh Luu left Baghdad this morning after week-long visit to Iraq. In a predeparture statement to INA, the Vietnamese minister expressed satisfaction with the fruitful results of the visit. He said the purpose of the visit was to develop bilateral relations and to sign the minutes of cooperation between the two friendly countries in the fields of land and maritime transportation, as well as to benefit from technical experiments in the two countries. The Vietnamese minister added that Vietnam very much admires the development and prosperity in Iraq in every field, particularly in reconstructing the cities of Basra and al-Faw and in accomplishing other projects that reflect Iraq's ability to implement large development projects.

Vietnam's Vo Chi Cong Arrives in Baghdad

JN1009193889 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic
1800 GMT 10 Sep 89

[Excerpt] Vo Chi Cong, chairman of the Council of State of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam, arrived in Baghdad this evening at the head of an official delegation on a visit to Iraq lasting several days. He was accorded an official reception by President leader Saddam Husayn. [passage omitted]

Zambian Defense Minister Arrives 10 Sep

JN1109063489 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic
0400 GMT 11 Sep 89

[Text] Frederich Shumba Hapunda, Zambian defense minister and the personal envoy of Zambian President Kenneth Kaunda to leader President Saddam Husayn, arrived in Baghdad last night. In a statement to INA, the

Zambian defense minister said he would convey a message from Zambian President Kenneth Kaunda to President Saddam Husayn on ways to promote bilateral relations between the two friendly countries.

The Zambian envoy was received at the airport by Defense Minister Staff General 'Abd-al-Jabbar Shanshal and a number of high-ranking officers.

Kurds Elect 50-Member Legislative Council

Voting Begins

JN0909110489 Baghdad INA in English
1040 GMT 9 Sep 89

[Excerpt] North Iraq, Sept. 9, INA—Some 784 thousands and 338 electorates in the Kurdistan Area of the Autonomy Rule in North Iraq this morning started the election of the 50-member Legislative Council. [sentence as received] [passage omitted]

Polls Close

JN0909182689 Baghdad INA in Arabic
1715 GMT 9 Sep 89

[Text] Autonomous Region, 9 Sep (INA)—At 1800 today, ballot boxes were closed at all polling places in the three governorates of Irbil, al-Sulaymaniyah, and Dahuk, which make up the autonomous region of Kurdistan.

Some 784,000 voters participated in the elections, which lasted for 12 hours. Voters cast ballots to elect 50 members from among 174 candidates for the sixth term of the Legislative Council. The candidates competed for 22 seats allocated for the governorate of al-Sulaymaniyah, 21 seats for the governorate of Irbil, and 7 seats for the governorate of Dahuk.

The 296 balloting boxes used in the process were placed at balloting stations located in 12 election districts. Five of these election districts were established in the governorate of al-Sulaymaniyah. Five other districts were established in the governorate of Irbil, and the remaining two election districts were located in Dahuk. These districts catered to the needs of all governorates in the autonomous region.

Judges at the balloting stations have told INA that no irregularities or incidents were reported or registered in any governorate. They added that the elections were held in a state of complete calm. They went on to say that the citizens expressed in the elections their strong enthusiasm for and their deep awareness of the importance of this democratic practice.

The process of sorting out votes in the three governorates began this evening and will continue. After the sorting procedure is completed, the results will be sent to the higher committee entrusted with supervising the Legislative Council elections.

Report on Results

JN1009111389 Baghdad INA in English
1040 GMT 10 Sep 89

[Text] Baghdad, Sept 10, INA—Two Kurdish women were elected to the membership of the Legislative Council of the autonomy rule area in North Iraq during Yesterday's elections.

Four women competed to the membership of the 50-member council.

An authorized source told INA that people turnout to the elections that continued for 12 hours as high.

The new Legislative Council will be invited for convening by a republican decree within a period not exceeding 15 days.

Members of the Legislative Council will through direct ballot elect the Council's speaker, deputy speaker and secretary.

Supervisors of the polling centers said that elections proceeded smoothly without any registered incident in the three governorates namely: al-Sulaymaniyah, Dahuk, and Irbil.

They added that Kurdish citizens showed enthusiasm and awareness to importance of this democratic process.

The governor of Irbil, Yahya al-Jaf, said that the distinguished turn out of electorates on polling centers were due to the allegiance of the Kurdish people to their principles and nationalism in electing a candidate who offered much and sacrificed in the Saddam al-Qadisiyah battle. He added that the elections were the first following ceasefire and the prevalence of the state of stability in the autonomy rule area.

The minister of local administration said that several tasks await the new session of the Legislative Council in accordance with the Iraqi state's experiments represented in the National Assembly and the Legislative Council.

He added that Iraqis are aware that the third session of the National Assembly started taking part with the Revolutionary Command in legislating and endorsing laws of the people.

The new session of the Legislative Council is required to take its pioneering position in this legislation, He said.

Some 78[illegible]000 [voters] and 338 electorates took part in yesterday's elections to elect their representatives in the Legislative Council out of 174 competing candidates including four women.

The council has 22 members representing the governorate of al-Sulaymaniyah, 21 representing the governorate of Irbil and seven for Dahuk.

250 Arab foreign journalists observed and covered the elections.

Rabin in Washington; Attends Pentagon Ceremony

TA0809195489 Jerusalem Television Service in Hebrew 1815 GMT 8 Sep 89

[Report by Washington-based correspondent Ya'ir Stern]

[Excerpt] [Passage omitted] To push the political negotiations forward, the mission has been imposed on Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin. He started his Washington visit at a Pentagon ceremony with Defense Secretary Richard Cheney to sign a joint memorandum of understanding dealing with equipment and material in military research and development, but neither country is interested in going into details. In his talks with Defense Secretary Cheney, mutual security issues were raised. First and foremost was the Lebanon issue and the growing tension there, which led the United States to evacuate its embassy with Israel's prior knowledge, and to bring its people back home.

[Begin recording] [Rabin] Israel is doing what is vital for its security, whether that involves freedom to carry out flights in Lebanese skies, or in other fields linked to what we believe is vital to our security and to an efficient fighting capability against terrorism from Lebanon.

[Stern] Mr Rabin, are the Americans trying to work out a meeting between you and President Mubarak?

[Rabin] Such a proposal was raised 5 or 6 weeks ago, but I do not have any invitation. So far, the issue has not been raised in Washington.

[Stern] THE NEW YORK TIMES wrote this morning that the election initiative in the territories is dying. What is your reaction to that evaluation?

[Rabin] I have no doubt that the atmosphere and resolutions at the Fatah congress in Tunisia led to a hardening of positions and a call to the inhabitants of the territories to escalate the violence. I would say it is a departure even from the verbal flexibility shown by the PLO a year ago in Geneva during the UN General Assembly or at 'Arafat's news conference.

[Stern] At your meeting this afternoon with Secretary Baker, will you try to ask him to get the administration to pressure Egypt and perhaps the PLO to moderate their positions?

[Rabin] I will not say what I will do or say in my meeting with Secretary of State Baker. I will represent the Israeli position on this issue. First, the government's continued steadfastness on the peace initiative. Second, I will make it completely clear who is holding it up and sabotaging it. Third, what conclusions should be drawn from the above. I will not say anything further on that.

[Stern] Thank you very much, Mr Rabin.

[Rabin] Thank you. [end recording]

In about an hour, Mr Rabin will arrive at the State Department to meet with Secretary of State James Baker. Sources in Washington say that the administration views Rabin as a key element in the Israeli Government—somebody who can live more comfortably with the Egyptian's 10-point plan than some of the Likud ministers can. It is therefore expected that Minister Rabin will be asked to take back home the U.S. message to try and moderate the government position on political negotiations.

Comments on U.S. Accord

TA0909104589 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0805 GMT 9 Sep 89

[Interview with Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin by 'Oded Ben-'Ami; in Washington, "after meeting Secretary of Defense Richard Cheney and Secretary of State James Baker" on 8 September—recorded]

[Text] [Rabin] There is no doubt in my mind that the Fatah conference in Tunis has sent a message through its resolutions, as well as through the signals that came out of it; a call to toughen the Arab and Palestinian stand, and a call to increase activity in the territories toward an escalation of the violence. These found their expression in the territories in two forms: One form is a feeling of frustration in the hope that some political activity will commence and a true political move will start. It is worth remembering that there was an Israeli political initiative. The proof of it, its success or failure, will be when and if a partner is found from among the residents of the territories. Without such a partner the initiative is meaningless. That is why the level of frustration has increased. The call to escalate the violence has also found ways of expression. Israel has no other choice but to, on the one hand, continue insisting on the implementation of the initiative, and on the other, insist on employing all the means available within the framework of law to quell the violence. In doing so we would be telling the Palestinians in the territories that they will get nothing from us through violence.

[Ben-'Ami] Mr Rabin, the U.S. Administration is about to face the problem of PLO leader Yasir 'Arafat requesting an entry visa to participate in the UN General Assembly discussions. Was this subject raised in your discussions in Washington?

[Rabin] Without stating whether and where it was raised, I wish to say just one thing: I believe it would be a very grave thing if, after the Fatah conference revealed all the extremism, and the organization he is heading issued the call for an escalation of the violence—to a large extent even in contradiction to the Palestinian National Council resolutions from a year ago—if 'Arafat is allowed to come to the United Nations, this would be very grave indeed.

[Ben-'Ami] Yesterday katyusha rockets were launched from Jordan into Israel. The U.S. State Department

today condemned this activity. What is your reaction to the change in the location of the katyusha launchings?

[Rabin] It is very probable that some of the Palestinian terror organizations have a desire to expand the territorial range of their activity beyond Lebanon where they suffer severe casualties—especially those PLO terror groups operating from Lebanon. It is also possible that, in view of several incidents that have taken place this year, they found their way to the State of Jordan. We are holding Jordan responsible for this. I believe that when it comes to launching katyusha rockets, the Jordanians will indeed take serious steps because katyushas can be fired in directions other than Israel.

[Ben-'Ami] Another important detail of Defense Minister Rabin's visit was the signing of a memorandum of understanding between Israel and the United States concerning the sharing of equipment and material, and joint research and development plans. It should be remembered that this memorandum was signed despite the appearence of tiny cracks between Jerusalem and Washington that followed the kidnapping of Shaykh 'Ubayd. Minister Rabin says:

[Rabin] There is a willingness by the United States to sign framework agreements that institutionalize many of the aspects of cooperation between the defense systems of our two countries.

Says Defense Ties Good

TA1109060289 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 11 Sep 89

[Text] The defense minister said it would be a setback for Middle East peace to grant a visa to PLO leader Yasir 'Arafat. 'Arafat reportedly wants to address the UN General Assembly this month. Speaking to about 300 people in Philadelphia for Israel Bonds, Rabin said a key concern during his meetings with senior U.S. officials was to clarify issues not understood by both sides about a recent event. He declined to elaborate, but Rabin said he was pleased with the results of the meetings.

[Begin Rabin recording] And allow me to say that I am leaving the United States tonight back to Israel, knowing after these meetings that when it comes to the relationship between our defense establishment, our military forces, we are in very good shape. The strategic cooperation, the assistance that we get from the United States to make Israel stronger, the combined exercises, visits, common projects of research and development are going on and developing, serving the interests of our two countries without any interference. [end recording]

U.S. Said Pressing for Adviser To Leave Panama

TA0409130389 Tel Aviv HADASHOT in Hebrew 4 Sep 89 p 2

[Text] The U.S. Administration has been using Israeli figures to pressure Mike Harari to leave Panama and stop aiding General Noriega's regime. Israeli security elements recently made contact with Harari and Israeli instructors in Panama, asking them to leave the country quickly, before a new international media campaign is launched.

The United States has severed relations with Panama, and will not recognize the ruling regime until General Noriega, who is suspected of involvement in drug and money-laundering offenses, is deposed.

An Israeli businessman who returned from Panama a week ago told HADASHOT that at least 10 Israelis are in that country. Some of them deal in security assistance and counseling to Noriega, and most of them are connected to Harari.

In the past 2 years, Israel has sold some $80 million in weapons and military equipment to Panama. The equipment includes Galil rifles, ammunition, telescopic sights, communication systems, sabotage and mining devices, riot control equipment, and night sight systems. Only 2 months ago, Israelis mediated a $20 million weapons deal for Panama. The order includes, among other items: 0.5 machine guns [as published], ammunition for night warfare, flak jackets, and gas kits for the dispersing of demonstrations. The Israeli industries are expected to pay commissions estimated at millions of dollars to various elements, including Mike Harari, who acts as an arms deal agent in Panama. The Americans are fully aware of the sale of Israeli weapons to Panama. They object to this activity, which they believe to be a factor strengthening the Noriega regime.

Panamanian Embassy Official on Noriega Removal

TA0609113289 Tel Aviv HADASHOT in Hebrew 6 Sep 89 p 2

[Interview with Panamanian Charge d'Affaires Antonio Buello by Shlomo Slutzky on 5 September; place not given]

[Text] "I have not received any official notice from the Israeli Government about it joining the group of governments working in conjunction with the United States to remove General Manuel Noriega from power," Antonio Buello, the acting Panamanian ambassador in Israel, yesterday told HADASHOT. He was reacting to reports in THE JERUSALEM POST and DAVAR that Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir had sent a letter to U.S. President George Bush promising Israel's support for his actions concerning Panama.

[Slutzky] Did you go to the Foreign Ministry in Jerusalem yesterday to be briefed about the change in Israel's position?

[Buello] We went to the Foreign Ministry to do absolutely routine work, and not for any special consultations. Panama has substantial problems of a totally different nature at the moment, the main one being the economic and political boycott aimed at strangling our nation that has been imposed by the United States. This

boycott came in the wake of the election of a transitional government which declared its willingness to hold free elections within 6 months if certain conditions are met, such as the unfreezing of $165 million belonging to the Panamanian Government deposited in U.S. banks.

[Slutzky] Are you not bothered by the press reports accusing Mike Harari of being connected with the drug cartel?

[Buello] Too many things are said in letters and in the media, and too many false accusations are made without having any basis or evidence. As long as there is no evidence or admission of guilt, these remain mere speculations. That being the case, I could also say "were my grandfather still alive...." The main problem is the U.S. campaign against the people in Panama. U.S. soldiers stationed on the Panama Canal take the liberty of walking around in uniform and roaming Panamanian cities in armored cars. This is an attempt to turn us into a satellite state or even an occupied zone, and we cannot agree to that.

First Joint Venture With USSR Established

TA0709182089 Tel Aviv YEDI'OT AHARONOT in Hebrew 7 Sep 89 p A3

[Report by Jerusalem economic correspondent Gad Li'or]

[Text] Thousands of Soviet cripples will soon be using Israeli-designed wheelchairs which will be produced in the first factory to be set up by an Israeli company in the Soviet Union.

This week an agreement was reached between the authorities in the Georgian Soviet Socialist Republic, the relevant bodies in Moscow, and the owners of the Israeli wheelchair factory, MG, in Rishon Leziyyon. The deal was also reported to senior government elements in Jerusalem and Moscow.

(Moti Farin), the owner of the "MJ—Medical Industries" factory, confirmed the deal yesterday. He said that the Israeli factory had received an order to set up the wheelchair factory in partnership with the Georgian Government in Tbilisi. The Israelis will own 60 percent of the factory, and the Soviets will own 40 percent. The total initial investment will amount to approximately $300,000.

The construction of a second wheelchair factory in Moscow was also agreed upon with high-level Moscow sources. The second factory will only employ Israeli know-how, and will be fully financed by the Soviet authorities. The scope of this transaction is $250,000.

There is only one factory for producing wheelchairs in the entire Soviet Union today. This factory is of low standard, and cannot supply the great demand for wheelchairs.

Soviet Commentator Urges Restoration of Ties

TA0909114489 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1100 GMT 9 Sep 89

[Text] The political analyst of the Soviet newspaper IZVESTIYA and Moscow television, Aleksandr Bovin, has urged the Kremlin to restore diplomatic ties with Israel. He said this should not be tied to any concessions on Israel's part, and questions the value of the international conference the Soviet Union is advocating, saying this would achieve nothing.

[Jerusalem Domestic Service in English at 0500 GMT on 9 September reports that "the call was carried by Moscow Radio last night."]

East Europe Signs Deals With AGREXCO

TA0609184789 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1700 GMT 6 Sep 89

[Text] Several East European countries have asked AGREXCO [the Israeli agriculture produce exporting company] to market their agricultural produce through the company's branches in Europe. Our correspondent Hayim Hecht, accompanying an Agriculture Ministry delegation in Vienna, reports that in the past few days three groundbreaking deals have been signed. The AGREXCO director general has agreed to follow through on these deals for an appropriate fee: mainly, to be allowed to operate company branches in seasons during which there is a shortage of agricultural produce from Israel.

It also became apparent that an East European country has recently purchased $120,000 worth of irrigation equipment in Israel. Instead of hard currency, which this country did not have, it transferred dozens of tons of bean crops to the Bank of Israel. Through AGREXCO, bank representatives are currently selling the beans on Western markets.

Palestine Bank To Open Branch in Jabalyah

TA0609120189 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 6 Sep 89 p 2

[Text] The Civil Administration in the Gaza Strip has for the first time ever approved the opening of a branch of the Palestine Bank in the Jabalyah refugee camp. The approval came at the request of Abu-'Ata al-Shawwa, chairman of the bank in the Gaza Strip.

The branch will be subordinate to the Palestine Bank branch in Gaza. Al-Shawwa has applied for permission to open another branch in Gaza's Rimal neighborhood. Most Israeli banks in the Gaza Strip have closed since the beginning of the intifadah [uprising], and the bulk of the population has opened accounts at the Palestine Bank.

Embassy in Dublin Only 'Question of When'

TA0509100289 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 5 Sep 89 p 12

[Report by David Horovitz]

[Text] London—The Irish Government has approved in principle Israel's perennial demand for permission to open an embassy in Dublin, Israeli officials said here yesterday when ambassador in London, Yo'av Biran, left on a two-day visit to the republic.

"It is no longer a question of whether we can open an embassy, but when," said the officials. They conceded, however, that significant progress on the issue during Biran's visit was unlikely.

The ambassador is today to present his credentials in Dublin to the president of the republic, Dr. Patrick John Hillery, and will then hold talks on the subject of representation and other issues with officials, including Foreign Minister Gerard Collins.

Ideally, Israel would like to have a representative office operating in Dublin by next January, when Ireland takes over the presidency of the European Community for a six-month term.

But although a decision seemed imminent earlier in the year, the signals from Dublin are no longer quite so positive.

Israeli officials stress that an embassy in Dublin would benefit both countries. They note that two-way trade has been increasing steadily in recent years, and add that Ireland remains the only EC member-nation without an Israeli embassy.

"An embassy can only improve bilateral relations," said one Israeli official, "and it would be of particular value if Ireland intends to lead the EC to a meaningful role in the peace process."

As for Irish fears that closer links with Israel might threaten exports to the Arab world, it is observed that Britain's excellent trading relations with Arab clients are unimpaired by its full diplomatic relationship with Israel.

At present, Israel's interests in Ireland are dealt with through the embassy in London, while Ireland's embassy in Greece handles Irish matters in Israel.

Although relatively few nations maintain embassies in Dublin, Egypt and Iran both have representation there, and the PLO has an active office.

Law Bans Unsupervised Foreign Broadcast Stations

TA0509120889 Tel Aviv DAVAR in Hebrew 5 Sep 89 p 3

[Report by 'Ofer Arian]

[Excerpts] The sixth draft amendment to the Bezeq Law passed the second and third readings in the Knesset yesterday. The amendment stipulates that the establishment and operation of foreign satellite stations beaming their broadcasts to Israel will be banned. The proposal was raised by Communications Minister Gad Ya'aqobi and is meant to prevent broadcast stations directing their broadcasts to Israel from operating without the relevant authorities controlling the content of these broadcasts. [passage omitted]

[Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew on 5 September carries a similar report by Tal Shahaf on page A10, adding that "according to the amendment, Israeli citizens will be forbidden to operate satellite television broadcasts, even if the broadcasts are transmitted from abroad or via a civilian satellite." The report explains that "the law was intended to kill the initiative of some Israelis who requested permission several years ago to set up a network to receive European satellite broadcasts."]

It is not clear whether the amendment that was passed yesterday also affects radio stations operating from outside Israeli territory. If so, then the Voice of Peace radio station and Channel 7 [offshore settlers radio station] will face some difficulties.

Likud Positions 'Incompatible' With Egypt's Plan

TA0709205689 Jerusalem AL-QUDS in Arabic 7 Sep 89 p 7

[Editorial: "The Ten Points"]

[Text] The Egyptian 10 points, to which the U.S. Administration is said to have agreed to link to the Israeli peace initiative based on holding elections in the occupied territories, are a new attempt to push the Israeli Government, specifically the Likud Party, into answering the questions relating to the principle of land in return for peace and the final status of the occupied territories.

Although the 10 points do not mention the Palestinian people's right to self-determination, or the establishment of an independent state, or PLO participation in the peace process, the Israeli Government has to this day not replied to the Egyptian proposal which was officially presented to it a few weeks ago.

Yitzhaq Shamir, the Israeli prime minister, announced at the Likud Party Central Committee meeting held on 5 July that he does not agree to the principle of land in return for peace, rejects participation in the elections by Jerusalem's Arab residents, and insists on continuing the establishment of settlements. These three clauses constitute the most important outlines of the Egyptian 10 points.

As to the other subjects addressed in the 10 points pertaining to freedom of elections, appropriate supervision on election day, withdrawal of the Israeli Army from polling stations, and the formation of a Palestinian-Israeli committee with the aid of Egypt and the United States, these remain within the framework of procedural matters and are not fundamental issues.

The principle of "land in return for peace" means Israel's withdrawal from the Arab lands which it occupied in 1967. This is totally incompatible with what the Likud Party is proposing. The same applies to the participation of Jerusalem's Arab residents, and the freezing of settlement during the period of negotiations.

When the United States and the EC countries posed certain questions to the Israeli prime minister about his position on the principle of land in return for peace and the final status of the occupied territories, he replied: "Discussion of these matters harms the peace process," and did not answer the questions.

Advancing and creating a real peace process in the region that can lay the firm foundations of peace is, first and foremost, based on addressing the Palestinian problem in all its aspects, including the Palestinian people's legitimate national rights, not merely the "political rights." In addition to this, the Israeli Government has to acknowledge that the principle of land in return for peace constitutes the basis of a durable settlement.

These are the very things that Shamir refuses to discuss, saying "not one inch."

Merchandise Bypassing RSA Trade Bans Confiscated

TA0609130589 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 6 Sep 89 p 1

[Report by 'Aqiva Eldar]

[Text] European goods sent to South Africa under the guise of Israeli merchandise have recently been confiscated by the customs authorities by order of Deputy Finance Minister Dr Yosi Beilin. Attempts by various Israeli firms to circumvent the government decision banning the "laundering" of exports from countries which have imposed an embargo on trade with South Africa have been uncovered recently.

The customs authorities confiscated $200,000-worth of bearings which were on their way from Romania to South Africa via Israel. The Israeli firm Shagum appealed to the authorities to release the shipment. Among other things, it produced a recommendation from the Romanian Embassy in Israel, but the request was rejected. Political sources noted that Romania apparently is seeking to use Israeli firms to bypass its own decision banning trade with South Africa.

'Arafat Said 'Inclined' Toward Flexibility

TA0709150189 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 7 Sep 89 p A 3

[Report by Avino'am Bar-Yosef, Ilan Bakhar, and Shefi Gabay]

[Text] Yasir 'Arafat is inclined to adopt more flexible positions on the question of including Palestinians from abroad in the delegation that will start negotiations on the Israeli election initiative. He also admitted that the PLO has sanctioned a meeting between Yitzhaq Rabin and Egyptian President Husni Mubarak to promote the 10 conditions presented by Egypt for holding elections in the territories.

Senior East Jerusalem Palestinian sources, who have recently held contacts with Palestinian representatives abroad in an effort to persuade the PLO to support the autonomy plan, have related that in order to grease the wheels of peace, 'Arafat is prepared to embrace more flexible positions and allow Palestinians who are not members of his organization's institutions to be on the delegation that he will appoint via Egypt.

The proposal was meant to appease both Israel and the United States, as neither is prepared to accept the PLO's conditions at this stage. Even though the names have not yet been agreed upon, it has been learned that the proposal involves U.S. professors who will replace Prof Edward Said and Prof Ibrahim Abu-Lughod, who are members of the Palestine National Council.

East Jerusalem sources have disclosed that in meetings held between Palestinian elements in the territories and Palestinian representatives in Europe it emerged that the PLO supports a meeting between Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin and Egyptian President Husni Mubarak. The sources believe that such a meeting could soften Rabin's positions regarding acceptance of the Egyptian conditions for the promotion of the process.

Political sources in Jerusalem last night expressed concern over reports of a clandestine U.S.-PLO dialogue on Yasir 'Arafat's entry into the United States to participate in the UN General Assembly session. The Jerusalem sources have learned that U.S. President Bush is personally handling the matter.

PLO leader Yasir 'Arafat revealed yesterday that Washington has not imposed any preconditions, or demanded any political concessions from him in return for stamping a U.S. visa in his passport permitting him to attend the UN General Assembly deliberations in New York later this month.

PLO Uncovers Mosad Assassination Plan

JN1109082589 Paris AL-MUHARRIR in Arabic 9 Sep 89 p 1

[Text] Does Israel's failure to carry out the threats launched before the convening of the Fatah Congress

recently against the PLO's leadership mean that it has gone back on these threats? Information received by the PLO monitoring departments affirms the contrary. The information says that the Israeli Mosad has gone a long way in preparing a liquidation campaign targeting PLO leaders and prominent cadres from various factions according to special orders issued by Shamir himself.

President Yasir 'Arafat is the first target of the Israeli intelligence organ. This Israeli organ resorted to the following methods to implement its scheme:

1. It has recruited a number of youths from the southern Lebanese border strip controlled by the Israeli occupation and the Lahd forces. The mission of those youths is to assassinate Palestinian symbols outside the occupied territory and to carry out sabotage acts in the West Bank, Gaza, Lebanon, and Jordan.

2. It has chosen Israelis who immigrate from Arab countries and who have Arab features. Those Israelis were given forged passports and names of missing or dead Arabs and were operated on so that they would resemble those whose names they were given. The passports given to those Israelis are carefully forged and belong to many Arab states such as Egypt, Jordan, Yemen, and Morocco. The mission of these groups is confined to assassinations. They have been trained in various types of liquidation—killing or poisoning. The escape operations, alternative addresses, passports, and entry and exist stamps are all arranged. Their areas of operation are in the countries surrounding Israel and far away from it, such as Tunisia and Yemen where some Palestinian symbols are positioned.

The following are some of the names used by Mosad in the Arab passports and which were discovered by the PLO monitoring departments: Mufid Yunus, Husayn Sabah, Nadir Sayyam, Khadir al-Yasin, Ilyas Ma'ruf, Riyad Shakir, and many more.

Letters With 'Judaea' Stamps Ordered Delivered

TA0609184989 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1800 GMT 6 Sep 89

[Text] The attorney general has ordered the Postal Authority to continue delivering letters that carry the stamp of the State of Judaea in addition to regular postage stamps. Members of that organization appealed to the High Court of Justice after they realized, according to them, that the Postal Authority had been delaying letters carrying a State of Judaea stamp. At the beginning of today's court debate, an attorney for the State Attorney Office announced that the attorney general recently instructed the Postal Authority not to delay these letters. As a result, the appeal was withdrawn.

Jewish Underground Member To Head Settlers

TA0709112689 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 7 Sep 89 p 2

[Report by Joshua Brilliant]

[Excerpt] Tel Aviv—West Bank settlers this week chose Ze'ev Hever, a convicted member of the Jewish underground, as the new secretary-general of their settlement movement, Amana. Hever, better known by his nickname Zambish and his former family name of Freedman, reportedly won the nomination by a large majority.

He succeeds Uri Ari'el, who is also secretary of the Council of Settlers in Judaea, Samaria and Gaza. Hever had been coordinator of the Qiryat Arba' Council until his arrest and subsequent conviction as a member of the Jewish Underground. He served 11 months in jail and was released early due to a health problem. He said yesterday he has recovered. [passage omitted]

Brig Gen Erez Meets Janin Area 'Notables'

TA0409134189 Tel Aviv DAVAR in Hebrew 4 Sep 89 p 2

[Report by Dani Rubinstein and Dani Tzidqoni]

[Excerpt] [Passage omitted] Brigadier General Shay Erez, head of the Judaea and Samaria Civil Administration, met yesterday with a group of notables from the Janin District who represent different political streams in the territories. They discussed the Israeli peace initiative and education and economic issues. The Arab participants included Mustafa Malhiz, head of a workers organization identified with the left; Nasir Nafa', former deputy mayor of Janin; and Fathi Fahmawi, local Chamber of Commerce chairman. The latter two figures are Fatah supporters. Another participant was Shaykh Mahmad Fu'ad Abu-Zayd, a supporter of the Hamas Islamic Resistance Movement. [passage omitted]

Meets PFLP, Fatah Activists

TA1009183989 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1800 GMT 10 Sep 89

[Text] Brigadier General Shay Erez, head of the Judaea and Samaria Civil Administration, conferred with a group of notables from the Bethlehem area today, including activists in the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine [PFLP], Fatah, and other organizations.

Our correspondent Arye Gus reports that political issues, especially Israel's peace plan, as well as day-to-day problems of the inhabitants were raised.

Gen Erez' interlocutors complained that the IDF is imposing collective punishment.

Minister David Levi told the Cabinet today that there have been reports recently about meetings between public figures from the territories and the PLO. He said

senior elements in the defense establishment and members of the Cabinet are aware of the meetings. Our correspondent Ze'ev Kohen reports that in Minister Levi's opinion, this conflicts with the government's policy and resolutions which reject contacts with the PLO.

Lahd on Security Zone Absorbing Refugees

TA0709204689 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1705 GMT 7 Sep 89

[Text] General Lahd predicts that the security zone will no longer be able to absorb refugees from the north. He says, however, that the conditions of those refugees who have so far arrived are better than those Lebanese residing in other parts of the country. Gen Lahd this afternoon arrived at Karmi'el to present awards to winning teams at sports competitions between the IDF [Israel Defense Forces] liaison unit to Lebanon and the SLA [South Lebanese Army]. Our correspondent Nati Zilberman met him there:

[Begin recording] [Zilberman] According to Gen Antoine Lahd the peace between Israel and south Lebanon is a fact, even if some in the north do not recognize it. Facing his soldiers competing in a tug-of-war with the liaison unit, Lahd said that the security zone could no longer absorb refugees from the north, and that the superpowers must take this into consideration. Concerning the dangers entailed by the entry of the refugees to south Lebanon, the SLA commander stresses that his soldiers and those of the liaison unit are taking all precautions to prevent infiltrations.

[Lahd speaks in Arabic, followed by Zilberman translation] Concerning the Grad missiles captured north of the security zone, Gen Lahd said that they should be a cause of concern for the settlements in the north of Israel. His soldiers, however, will do everything within their power to prevent them from being launched at targets in the security zone or Israeli settlements.

When teased and asked about the increasing number of incidents in which terrorists managed to reach very near to the border fence, Gen Lahd, somewhat upset, answered by saying: You Israelis tend to forget that the security zone is often not wider than several kilometers. Aside from that, he says, in Israel you hear about squads that reached the fence, but know nothing of those squads that are being intercepted and eliminated even before they get on the road. [end recording]

Army Denies Reported Mock Air Raids in Lebanon

TA1009182389 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 10 Sep 89

[Text] Police in Lebanon say Israeli warplanes staged mock attacks on two towns in the country today. The spokesman said the planes did not bomb any targets as they flew over Bhamdun in central Lebanon and al-Damur along the coast, but he said that the Israeli planes drew antiaircraft fire from Muslim-Druze militiamen as well as from Palestinians.

In Jerusalem, the Army spokesman denies any raids took place today.

Press Updates Uprising Casualty Toll

TA0609131389 Tel Aviv HA'OLAM HAZE in Hebrew 6 Sep 89 p 10

[Report by Orit Zrubavel]

[Text] On Monday, 4 September, the IDF [Israel Defense Forces] spokesman reported 471 Palestinian fatalities in the occupied territories. This number includes only those killed by IDF soldiers' gunfire.

According to HA'OLAM HAZE's count, the number of fatalities stands at 600.

On the other hand, Palestinian sources report 734 fatalities according to the following breakdown:

—522 fatalities by IDF soldiers' and settlers' gunfire;
—80 fatalities by asphyxiation;
—52 fatalities by beatings and electrocution;
—80 fatalities by other reasons.

Nusaybah Comments on Prospects for Peace Process

TA0609134089 Tel Aviv HATZOFE in Hebrew 6 Sep 89 p 2

[Text] Dr Sari Nusaybah of Bi'r Zayt University believes that political developments in everything pertaining to the peace process in the Middle East will occur within the next few weeks, with the element of elections in the Israeli peace initiative being the key theme. The political deadlock has roused the United States and Egypt to make a final attempt to breathe life into the peace process, Dr Nusaybah added, noting that for its part the Palestinian leadership will continue to encourage negotiations with Israel.

Dr Nusaybah told the ITIM correspondent: "Necessity is the mother of invention, and some kind of formula may be found to push the political process forward. In any event, the Palestinian position on the notion of elections is favorable."

Dr Nusaybah believes that the Palestinians in the territories will very soon change their attitude toward other Palestinians whom they suspect of collaborating with Israeli authorities. It will take time before the Palestinian population in the territories starts complying with the leaflets of the Unified National Command of the Uprising, Dr Nusaybah noted, since this cannot be done at the push of a button. He added: "A new situation will

emerge within a month whereby the Palestinian inhabitants of the territories will use more civilized methods to deal with people suspected of collaborating with Israel."

Speaking to the ITIM correspondent, Dr Nusaybah rejected claims that the Unified National Command of the Uprising had lost control over events in the field, and said its role has always been a representative one—or, in other words, to present Palestinian sentiment in the territories to the outside world. Nusaybah added: "The intifadah [uprising] is a popular movement, and the popular committees of the uprising have always operated as free agents in the field. The Palestinian masses control the Palestinian people, and the Palestinian people run the intifadah."

Jordan Captures 3 Islamic Jihad 'Terrorists'

TA1009142689 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1400 GMT 10 Sep 89

[Text] Major General Ehud Baraq, deputy chief of staff, told the Cabinet that Jordan has announced that it has captured three terrorists, members of the Islamic Jihad, who tried to attack Elat. He said the terrorist killed near Kefar Ruppin most likely also belonged to the Islamic Jihad.

Our correspondent Ze'ev Kohen reports that the deputy chief of staff said that there has been an increase in rioting in Judaea and Samaria although people are leaving for work as usual. He also said that murders of collaborators have increased in Judaea, Samaria, and the Gaza Strip.

Riots Erupt Following Demolition of Houses

TA0609122989 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1100 GMT 6 Sep 89

[Text] The Civil Administration has deported 74 Arabs illegally residing in the territories. Most of them were expelled to Jordan.

The Civil Administration destroyed three houses in Halhul that did not have a building permit. The buildings were blown up, leading to clashes between Halhul residents and the Army. Several residents were injured. Other clashes were reported in the towns of Tulkarm, Husayn, Nabulus, and the village of Bayta.

Update on Incidents in Territories 6 Sep

TA0709161389 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 7 Sep 89 p 12

[Report by Mikhal Sela']

[Excerpt] Twenty one Gazans and 11 West Bank residents were shot and wounded by troops yesterday, according to Palestinian sources, and an alleged intifada [uprising] leader was arrested in Tulkarm on Tuesday.

'Issam al-Sarraji, 25, of Tulkarm—who, according to Arab sources, has been sought by the security forces since the start of the intifadah—was apprehended Tuesday night after jumping out of a third-storey window in his home. His brother Samir, 17, was also arrested.

In recent months, clashes in the refugee camp near Tulkarm have been taking place mainly at night. On Tuesday night, nine of the camp's residents were shot and wounded, according to Palestinian sources.

Two Palestinians were shot and wounded in 'Awarta, near Nabulus—one by a plastic bullet and the other by a live bullet, the Nabulus al-Ittihad Hospital said yesterday. Nabulus itself remained under curfew yesterday for the fifth consecutive day.

In the Gaza Strip, 15 Palestinians from Rafah and Khan Yunus, three al-Burayj residents and one Gazan were shot and wounded in the course of several clashes between residents and IDF [Israel Defense Forces] soldiers, according to Gaza hospital records.

Two wounded residents of al-Nusayrat were arrested as they were being evacuated to hospital in an Unrwa [UN Relief and Works Agency] ambulance, according to reports from Unrwa officials. [passage omitted]

[Tel Aviv HADASHOT in Hebrew on 7 September in a page 6 report by Oren Kohen and Mikhal Qedem adds that "during disturbances in the Tulkarm refugee camp three residents were slightly injured by plastic coated steel marbles. They received treatment at a local clinic."

Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew on 7 September in a pool-report together with ITIM states that "Nisim Dal'i, a resident of Shave Shomron, was injured last night at the exit from Nabulus. A stone was hurled at his car, smashed the front windshield, and struck him in the chest." The report goes on to say that "an Egged Bus driver, from line No. 473 on its way from Netanya to Jerusalem through Samaria, was injured when unknown assailants hurled stones at the bus. A second Egged bus was pelted with stones near a school in Tulkarm, and two windows were smashed."

Jerusalem Domestic Service in English at 0500 GMT on 7 September reports that "an Army patrol succeeded in rescuing one of its soldiers who was left alone and surrounded by local youths yesterday at the Tulkarm refugee camp. When the patrol realized one of their soldiers was missing they returned to the site to rescue him. In Bethlehem a soldier was lightly wounded when a stone was thrown at a bus in which he was travelling. The soldier was evacuated to hospital." The report adds that "27 Gaza Strip residents have been brought to trial for entering Israel without the new magnetic identity cards which became compulsory for entry into Israel last month. Most were sentenced to 2 months imprisonment or had to pay a 500 shekel fine."]

Peace Process Moving Despite 'Diversion'

TA0709120589 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 7 Sep 89 p 4

[Editorial: "Keeping the Process Alive"]

[Text] Appearances to the contrary notwithstanding, the reported standstill in the Middle East peace process is anything but complete.

The process was brought back to life by the government's peace initiative, approved by the Knesset on May 14.

In its first version the initiative consisted of four points, beginning with the proposed recommitment to peace a la Camp David by the signatories to the agreements. It ended with a provision for free elections in Judaea, Samaria and Gaza leading, eventually, to talks about a final settlement for the territories.

In between were tucked two more provisions. One called for movement toward peace by the Arab countries that still claim to be in a state of war with Israel. The other urged an international effort to solve the refugee problem in the areas under Israel's control.

In the finished version, the issue of Palestinian elections was lifted from its originally lowly fourth to a more respectable third place on the list of peace-process priorities. The attention given to the elections scheme clearly pointed to it as the very nub of the initiative, the practical launching pad for progress towards peace. It was on that assumption, too, that the U.S. embraced the initiative and set out to sell it, notably to Egypt and the PLO.

Speaking through its leading Likud half, Israel's government sounded less than charmed by the American sales effort. It strongly objected to Washington's courtship of the terrorists on precisely the plan that was expected to, at the very least, eclipse the U.S.-PLO dialogue, and to drive a wedge between local Palestinians and the Tunis outsiders. But then the seeming rejection of the initiative by the recent Fatah congress appeared to threaten that dialogue and guarantee stalemate. In that circumstance, the government, believing it was off the diplomatic hook, was prepared to sit back and wait.

But now it emerges hooks remain and the diplomatic momentum continues. Mr. Shamir has declined to take official note of the ten "conditions" in President Husni Mubarak's conditional acceptance of the election scheme, but the Egyptian leader's position commends itself to the U.S. Moreover, there is now also the distinct possibility that Washington may grant Yasir 'Arafat a visa that will enable him to lay before the UN General Assembly his own model of a peace, including a version of the election plan.

In response to these developments which defied the assumption that the PLO had pained itself into a paralytic corner, the Prime Minister's Office and the Foreign Ministry sprang into pre-emptive action.

The position of these departments has been that the initiative is one indivisible whole, and that the Palestinians must buy it as it is before Israel will discuss details. Unable to impress their American counterparts with the usefulness of this approach, government leaders began trying diversion as second best. They set out to softpedal the pragmatic aspects of the initiative by accentuating its more rhetorical components.

At a meeting with Canadian parliamentarians this week, Premier Yitzhaq Shamir let it be known that any agreement with the Palestinians would be worthless without a prior "understanding" with the currently hostile Arab states. The initiative was not actually spiked. But by drastically shifting its assumed priorities, Mr. Shamir has turned it into a tenuous exercise. Not much life would be left in the initiative if it came to rest on the hope of resurrecting the defunct Jordanian option, or on the acknowledgement of Syria's right to veto Arab-Israel peacemaking.

Earlier yet the prime minister had begun trying to persuade the U.S., and other leading industrialized countries, to help rehabilitate the Palestinian refugees inside the territories. In late May, the State Department already advised him, publicly but politely, that this long dormant issue could wait. Mr. Shamir persisted, only to earn cold water by way of an answer from President Bush this week.

The response suggests that the U.S. remains serious about Israel's initiative, so serious indeed that it will not be distracted from the task of improving upon, and making more acceptable, the original text. The initiative-based peace process is, therefore, not dead.

Plainly, however, if the initiative is to serve a less ephemeral purpose than the scrubbing of Israel's image abroad, it will need to be pursued in genuine negotiations. Without U.S. energy that won't happen. But with it, Mr. Shamir and the Likud half of the government will have to confront the issues arising from the scheme they approved.

Boy Killed, 9 Wounded in 7 Sep Incidents

TA0709142289 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1400 GMT 7 Sep 89

[Text] An 11-year-old boy was killed, and five youths were wounded by soldiers' gunfire during an incident near the village of 'Aqraba in the Janin area. Our correspondent Arye Gus reports that an IDF [Israel Defense Forces] patrol traveling on the road opened fire after being attacked with stones.

In the village of Dhannabah in the Tulkarm area an Arab youth was wounded in a stoning incident. In the Jabalyah refugee camp in the Gaza Strip two residents were wounded in clashes with IDF soldiers.

A resident of al-Burayj refugee camp was hospitalized in a Gaza Hospital after being severely beaten by locals.

More Riots Reported in Khan Yunus; Teen Dead

TA0809182289 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1800 GMT 8 Sep 89

[Text] Akram Zaki Hamdan, a 13-year-old boy, was killed in riots in Khan Yunus today. After an IDF [Israel Defense Forces] patrol was stoned, the soldiers fired at the perpetrators. The youth's body was brought to al-Nasir Hospital in Khan Yunus but was snatched away by relatives. Our correspondent Arye Gus reports that generally there were no disturbances in the Gaza Strip, and prayers in the mosques ended quietly.

In Jerusalem's Old City, an Arab youth tried to stab a border policeman tonight and was caught. Our police affairs correspondent Moshe Nussbaum reports that the 17-year-old youth, a resident of the Old City, was stopped in Hagay Street for a regular security check. During the check he began to go wild, pulling out a knife suddenly and trying to stab one of the border policemen. He was arrested.

Curfews Imposed 9 Sep

TA0909085089 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0800 GMT 9 Sep 89

[Text] This morning a curfew was imposed on the Khan Yunus refugee camp where a 13-year-old youth was killed during the dispersal of a riot yesterday.

Our correspondent Arye Gus reports that curfews were also imposed on the Sabra neighborhood in Gaza, and on the Brazil neighborhood in Rafah to enable an operation to erase slogans, remove PLO flags, and dismantle roadblocks.

Curfew Reimposed in Nabulus

TA1009082489 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0800 GMT 10 Sep 89

[Text] A 19-year-old youth was killed in Nabulus this morning. He was about to throw a firebomb at an IDF patrol. The IDF has reimposed the curfew on Nabulus.

Our correspondent Arye Gus reports that a week-long curfew on Nabulus was lifted this morning. At 0800 groups of youths began rioting and throwing stones. An IDF patrol spotted two youths who were about to hurl a firebomb. The patrol commander shot at them and hit the youth holding the firebomb. Later, the body of Samir Muhammad Ramanah was brought to a hospital. Another six residents were wounded during the disturbances, most sustaining light injuries.

Teenager Killed in Khan Yunus

TA1009173789 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1700 GMT 10 Sep 89

[Text] A 17-year-old youth was killed in Khan Yunus this afternoon. Our correspondent Arye Gus reports that an initial investigation showed that the youth was killed by shots fired by guards of a civilian oil tanker that was attacked with stones and iron bars.

In Nabulus, a man was killed and more than 10 were wounded, including a 16-month-old baby who was hit in the head. Nabulus residents claimed that the baby was hit by soldiers' gunfire when her older sister tried to protect her brother, who was being beaten by soldiers.

The IDF spokesman cited inhabitants who said that the baby was wounded near a house where a stone and brick roadblock had been erected. The people who set up the ambush hurled the bricks at an IDF patrol. An IDF jeep was hit and the soldiers, whose lives were endangered, were forced to fire rubber bullets at the assailants. The IDF spokesman stressed that it was possible that the baby was hit by mistake during the firing. An officer was appointed to investigate the incident.

West Bank Youth Killed in Riot

TA1009182689 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1800 GMT 10 Sep 89

[Excerpt] A 17-year-old youth was killed this evening during a riot in the township of Qabatiyah in Samaria; his body was snatched from a Janin Hospital. Our correspondent Arye Gus reports that the IDF is investigating the circumstances surrounding the death.

The Janin Hospital also reported the death of another youth from the village of Tabah who was killed by a gunshot wound in the head. [passage omitted]

1 Killed, 5 Wounded in West Bank

TA1109055489 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0500 GMT 11 Sep 89

[Text] A 12-year-old boy was killed and five residents were wounded in the Arab village of Qaddum in Samaria last night. Villagers reported that a car with Nabulus license plates drove into the village last night, and its passengers began shooting wildly in all directions. The shots killed the boy and wounded the others. The assailants also kidnapped two young men.

IDF [Israel Defense Forces] sources told our correspondent Arye Gus that the IDF carried out an operation in Qaddum which was initiated to arrest wanted men. Youths armed with sharp objects threw stones at the soldiers and surrounded them. The troops were forced to open fire and leave the village. Two of the attackers were arrested. The IDF is investigating the reports of casualties in the village.

A curfew was imposed on four neighborhoods in Rafah following severe disturbances which took place yesterday. An Arab youth was killed in the riots, and local sources claim another six residents were injured. Five residents of the territories were killed yesterday in the course of disturbances.

Qalqilyah Official Murdered; 14 Wounded in Clashes

TA0909201989 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 2000 GMT 9 Sep 89

[Text] Yusuf Milhim, secretary of Qalqilyah Municipality, was murdered by two assailants who barged into his house today. Our correspondent Arye Gus reports that he was transferred to Me'ir Hospital in Kefar Sava where he was pronounced dead. Qalqilyah residents said he was probably suspected of aiding the authorities.

Yusuf Milhim was wounded several weeks ago by masked men while hospitalized at a Qalqilyah Hospital.

Fourteen people were wounded, one of them seriously, during unrest and clashes with soldiers in the territories today. Seven were wounded in Judaea and Samaria, and a similar number in Gaza. Our correspondent points out that there was a general strike in the territories today.

More IDF Clashes in Shabura Neighborhood

TA1009201589 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 2000 GMT 10 Sep 89

[Text] A 21-year-old was killed in the Shabura neighborhood of Rafah this evening in an incident in which rocks and cinder blocks were hurled at an IDF [Israel Defense Forces] patrol. Our correspondent Arye Gus reports that the IDF is probing the circumstances of the death.

Soldier Killed in Clash With 'Terrorists'

TA1009053689 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 10 Sep 89

[Excerpt] An Israeli Army soldier was killed in a clash with terrorists near the Lebanese border. One terrorist was killed, and another escaped to the north. Alan Ben-'Ami has details:

[Begin recording] The clash was at Har Dov, a mountainous area in the eastern sector. It happened on the Lebanese side of the border, but close to the border fence. Fire was directed at an Israeli Army unit there, shortly after dark. The soldiers returned fire immediately, but in the brief exchange one soldier was killed. His family has been notified. One terrorist was also killed and a second escaped. This is the third time there have been clashes between terrorists and the IDF [Israel Defense Forces] in the south Lebanese zone during the last 10 days. [passage omitted] [end recording]

Peled Says 'No Change' in Border Situation

TA1009073989 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0700 GMT 10 Sep 89

[Excerpt] [Passage omitted] Major General Yosi Peled, the commander of the Northern Command, said that an IDF [Israel Defense Forces] patrol encountered a terrorist squad as the terrorists were placing explosive charges. The investigation is still in progress and searches continue throughout the area. Therefore Peled said he could not clearly determine whether the squad came from Lebanon's al-Biqa', which is under Syrian control. The probe will be concluded within a few hours.

Maj Gen Peled stressed that this is the third squad that has operated in the area over the last 10 days. Peled asserted, however, that the recent events constitute no exacerbation or change as there have already been periods in which terrorist squads launched daily attacks.

Maj Gen Peled said it is possible that local residents are assisting the terrorists. He confirmed that the Amal organization in southern Lebanon attempts to stop some activities directed against Israel.

Our correspondent Shula Schmerling reported Maj Gen Peled's remarks.

Hizballah Activity Increased in Southern Lebanon

TA1009103589 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 0930 GMT 10 Sep 89

[Text] Chief of Staff Dan Shomron said there is a connection between the increase in Hizballah terrorist activities in southern Lebanon and the kidnapping of Shaykh 'Ubayd. Menahem Horowitz, our correspondent in the north, spoke with the chief of staff in the wake of last night's violent encounter in the Har Dov sector, in which an IDF [Israel Defense Forces] soldier was killed.

[Begin recording] [Horowitz] Chief of Staff Shomron, how do you explain the increase in terrorist attacks over the last few weeks here at the northern border along all sectors?

[Shomron] First of all, I cannot explain it. There are ups and downs. If we just look at the month of September it is not much different than September last year. What I can say is that Hizballah has stepped up its activities lately, and if it transpires that Hizballah was also involved here, in the eastern sector of Har Dov, than this will indeed constitute a change, as Hizballah has not operated in this area so far.

[Horowitz] How would you sum up the performance of our troops, soldiers from the Giv'ati Brigade, last night?

[Shomron] Look, we are still conducting investigations. I would like to say that the task of defending the northern settlements involves fighting various forces. This mode of battle is dynamic and demands constant changes. Therefore every mission, and every incident, from our point of view, demands investigation to determine if there are any new elements that we have to adapt to in light of the rapid developments.

[Horowitz] Mr Chief of Staff, the IDF has conducted several military operations in this area this year in which they warned villagers. How can you explain the fact that a squad manages to reach the border fence?

[Shomron] To the best of my knowledge the most recent activity in this sector took place a year ago, and I assume

that part of the reason for the scarcity of incidents is our activities in the area. The fact is that the great majority of the local residents do not assist the terrorists.

[Horowitz] How many terrorists, in your estimation, almost reached the border fence from the area under Syrian control?

[Shomron] I do not believe there is any direct connection with the Syrians, at least I know of no connection. They did not reach the border fence. This squad was intercepted in the security zone.

[Horowitz] You mentioned Hizballah. Is there an increase in their attacks since the kidnapping of Shaykh 'Ubayd, or is there no connection between last night's attack and the abduction?

[Shomron] I believe there is a link, and their motivation to launch attacks has increased. We must also remember the Katyusha fire at Qiryat Shemona that was also Hizballah's doing. [end recording]

IDF Multiyear Plan Aims at Size Reduction

TA0409122589 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 4 Sep 89 p 2

[Report by defense correspondent Kenneth Kaplan]

[Text] During the long delay which preceded the IDF's [Israel Defence Forces] presentation of its multi-year plan to the cabinet yesterday, the army began to restructure its basic forces along the lines envisaged by Chief of General Staff Dan Shomron and the top brass.

Shomron and his generals favour a reduction in the overall size of the army and the introduction of increasingly sophisticated "high-kill ratio" weapons systems. When Lt.-Gen. Shomron took over from Moshe Levi two-and-a-half years ago, he spoke of a "smaller and smarter army," and that slogan still sums up his aims.

Changes already carried out in the IDF's order of battle include the mothballing of dozens of planes, the streamlining of the Air Force's infrastructure, and the dismantling of an entire reserve armoured unit.

However, within existing budget constraints, and given the need to meet short-term as well as long-range threats, there is a limit to the amount of sophisticated hardware the army can purchase, and hence a limit to how far it can deviate from its current organization and doctrine. The five-year plan presented yesterday to the cabinet will not dramatically alter the face of the IDF.

Since the IDF cannot compete quantitatively with the combined strength of the Arab armies, it must strive to maintain its qualitative edge by staying a technological leap ahead of the enemy.

The range of the IDF's weapons will be longer, and its munitions will be more accurate and more powerful.

The Air Force has ordered a squadron of Apache advanced-combat helicopters, the Navy is nearing deployment of its Barak anti-missile missile and is looking forward to its own expanded use of helicopters, and the Artillery Corps is equipping itself with smarter munitions and advanced guidance systems. Even in the Armoured Corps, the bastion of traditional offensive military doctrine, the introduction of the Merkava III battle tank with its 120 mm cannon creates the possibility that some day that corps, too, will be able to employ smart munitions.

To a degree, the multi-year plan presented yesterday perpetuates the agonizingly slow processes which have already been put in motion to achieve these aims. And for the time being, it envisions only incremental progress. In addition to seeking NIS [New Israeli Shekels] 500 million a year to fight the intifadah [uprising] the army may request an additional NIS 150m. per year to accelerate vital development and acquisition programmes.

Tax Revenues Reported Down by 13 Percent

TA0409102889 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 4 Sep 89 p 5

[Report by Judy Maltz]

[Text] The government's tax revenues fell 13 percent in August to NIS [New Israeli Shekels] 2 billion, and government outlays produced a net monetary injection into the economy of NIS 226 million, the Treasury said yesterday.

In a statement, the Finance Ministry said tax revenues so far this fiscal year also were down 13 percent, representing a drop of NIS 1.5b. from the year-earlier period.

The Treasury attributed the fall in government income to the recession and resulting drop in imports; the reduction in customs duties; and the effects of the huge debt write-offs and the devaluations implemented at the end of 1988.

Income tax revenues in August fell 9 percent from the year earlier to NIS 1.1b. Since the start of the fiscal year in April, the Treasury said, income tax revenues were off 12 percent.

Customs and V.A.T. [Value Added Tax] revenues fell 20 percent in August to NIS 843m. and were down 16 percent since the begining of the fiscal year. The steepest fall since the start of the fiscal year was registered in import tax revenues, which were down one-third from the year-earlier period. Net V.A.T. receipts were down 5 percent in the five months while local taxes excluding V.A.T. fell 13 percent.

The Treasury said that the drop in V.A.T. receipts reflected the overall decline in private consumption during the period. The fall in import duty revenues was

attributed to the elimination of customs duties on industrial imports from the European Community starting in January 1989 and to the drop in imports of consumer durables this year, particularly passenger cars.

Because of the fall in tax revenues, the government's domestic deficit totalled NIS 492m. last month. But this was partly offset by the NIS 266m. in capital it raised from the public.

The Bank of Israel, meanwhile, announced yesterday that the country's net foreign currency reserves fell 124m. dollars in August to 4.452b. dollars. This drop mainly reflects the strengthening of the U.S. dollar against other foreign currencies and not internal developments.

Syrian Transport Minister Arrives in Amman

JN0909114489 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1100 GMT 9 Sep 89

[Text] Syrian Transport Minister Eng Yusuf al-Ahmad arrived in Amman today leading a delegation on a 3-day visit to Jordan. During the visit, Al-Ahmad will meet with Eng Hikmat al-Khammash, minister of transportation and communications, to talk about bilateral cooperation, especially in transportation, and discuss means to bolster and promote this cooperation. Al-Ahmad also will attend meetings of the general assemblies of the Jordanian-Syrian Company for Land Transport and the Syrian-Jordanian Maritime Company.

The Syrian minister was received at the [al-Ramtha] border post by the minister of transportation and communications, the governor of Irbid, the director general of the Ports Corporation, the Syrian ambassador in Amman, and a number of officials.

PDRY Delegation on Official 3-Day Visit to Amman

Al-'Attas, Others Arrive

JN0909153889 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 9 Sep 89

[Excerpts] His Excellency Haydar Abu-Bakr al-'Attas, chairman of the Supreme People's Council Presidium in the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen [PDRY], arrived in Amman this afternoon on an official 3-day visit to Jordan in response to an invitation from His Majesty King Husayn.

His Excellency Chairman Haydar Abu-Bakr al-'Attas will hold talks with his brother, His Majesty King Husayn, and senior Jordanian officials on Arab and international developments and advancing bilateral relations and joint cooperation between the two fraternal countries.

His excellency the guest was accorded an official welcome headed by His Majesty King Husayn. [passage omitted]

His excellency the PDRY chairman is accompanied by a delegation comprising Muhammad Sa'id 'Abdallah, [Yemeni Socialist Party] Political Bureau member and Central Committee secretary; Dr 'Abd-al-'Aziz al-Dali, Central Committee member and foreign minister; Dr 'Abdallah Hamad 'Uthman, Central Committee member and industry, trade, and supply minister; and Dr Ahmad 'Ali Muqbil, agriculture and agrarian reform minister.

His excellency will be accompanied by an escort of honor headed by 'Adnan Abu-'Awdah, his majesty the king's political adviser. The escort also includes Marwan al-Qasim, deputy prime minister and foreign minister; Ziyad 'Innab, industry and trade minister; Dr Bassam al-Sakit, minister of agriculture; and Sa'd al-Batayinah, Jordan's ambassador to the PDRY.

Al-Qasim Meets PDRY's Al-Dali

JN0909194789 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 9 Sep 89

[Text] This evening, a meeting was held at the Foreign Ministry between a Jordanian delegation led by Marwan al-Qasim, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, and a team of the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen [PDRY] under Dr 'Abd-al-'Aziz al-Dali, member of the Central Committee and foreign minister. They reviewed Arab developments—particularly in the Palestinian cause and the Lebanese crisis, as well as the Iraq-Iran situation. Al-Qasim explained Jordan's position on these issues and the Jordanian efforts toward their resolution. The deputy prime minister noted Jordan's support for the Palestinian position of seeking a peaceful settlement and assuring the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people. He expressed Jordan's satisfaction over the revived efforts of the Arab Higher Committee to end the Lebanese crisis in the interest of Lebanon's integrity and sovereignty. Al-Qasim further emphasized Jordan's support for Iraq's efforts to end the state of no war and no peace with Iran in a bid to realize a durable and fair peace that guarantees the rights of both parties.

For his part, Dr al-Dali voiced his country's appreciation for Jordan's pan-Arab stands on various Arab issues, stressing that the PDRY holds identical views on the topics that came up for discussion. He voiced his country's decided desire to see relations with Jordan fostered and developed.

The two sides also reviewed their close bilateral ties and ways to further consolidate them.

King, Al-'Attas Confer

JN1009171889 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 10 Sep 89

[Excerpt] Amman—Talks were held today at the Royal Hashemite Court between a Jordanian delegation led by His Majesty King Husayn and a People's Democratic Republic of Yemen [PDRY] delegation led by His Excellency President Haydar Abu-Bakr al-'Attas.

At the opening of the session, His Majesty King Husayn welcomed the guest and his delegation. His majesty spoke about the political situation, particularly the Palestine question. He praised the valiant intifadah [uprising] being waged by the Palestinian people against occupation. His Majesty King Husayn stressed that a just and comprehensive solution is expected by future generations.

His Majesty King Husayn reviewed the situation in Lebanon and the need to resolve the Lebanese crisis because of its serious consequences for pan-Arab security. He praised the Arab tripartite committee's efforts and the importance of resuming them.

His majesty expressed the hope that efforts to hold negotiations between Iraq and Iran would succeed.

His Majesty King Husayn spoke about the objectives of the Arab Cooperation Council [ACC] and the benefits of its creation to all Arabs.

His Majesty King Husayn said that he has issued instructions to the Jordanian Government to exert serious efforts to secure the best means of cooperation with the PDRY.

The visiting president then spoke, thanking his majesty the king. He said: We are looking forward to achieving further integration and coordination between us in the current age of international groupings, integration, and technology. We welcome cooperation because it fulfills the principles of joint Arab action. We actually have begun the signing of cooperation agreements.

He said that the Palestine question necessitates joint Arab action to achieve a just and peaceful solution. He stressed that the intifadah is a good step toward the aspired solution.

The visiting president added that the Arabs have a great responsibility to resolve the Lebanese crisis. He praised the tripartite committee's efforts and said he hoped that it would resume its activities. He expressed the hope that peace would be achieved between Iraq and Iran and that the state of no-peace, no-war between them would end.

The two sides then reviewed prospects for cooperation and coordination; the steps that have been taken, and the joint projects in the fields of agricultural, industrial, and technical cooperation; and the exchange of expertise between the two fraternal countries.

At the end of the session, His Excellency President Haydar Abu-Bakr al-'Attas invited His Majesty King Husayn to visit the PDRY. His majesty accepted the invitation, thanked his excellency for the invitation, and promised to respond to it as soon as possible. [passage omitted]

Cooperation Agreements Signed

JN1009122489 Amman Domestic Service in English 1100 GMT 10 Sep 89

[Text] Jordan and the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen have signed an agreement to set up a joint ministerial committee for cooperation between the two countries.

The agreement was signed at the Foreign Ministry today by the deputy premier and foreign minister, Mr Marwan al-Qasim, and the Yemeni foreign minister, Dr 'Abd-al-'Aziz al-Dali.

The agreement envisages broadening areas of cooperation and following up the implementation of accords and protocols between them.

The higher committee will meet periodically in Amman and Aden.

At the Ministry of Industry and Trade, a number of accords were signed between Jordan and the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen for economic, trade, technical, scientific, and cultural cooperation.

Cooperation protocols were also signed in the fields of agriculture, health, culture, and information.

The economic agreement stipulates encouraging the setting up of joint ventures in both countries, exchanging expertise, and enhancing planning cooperation. The trade pact calls for developing commercial links and increasing the volume of trade, as well as exempting from customs and import fees all agricultural products.

The agreement was signed by the minister of industry and trade, Mr Ziyad 'Innab, and his South Yemeni counterpart, Mr 'Abdallah Muhammad 'Uthman.

Chinese Foreign Minister Qian's Visit Previewed

JN1009074889 Amman JORDAN TIMES in English 10 Sep 89 p 1

[By staff reporter Nirmin Murad]

[Excerpts] Amman—Chinese Foreign Minister Qian Qichen visits Jordan in the third week of this month as part of a Middle East tour which will also take him to Egypt, Syria and Tunisia. During the visit he is expected to discuss developments in the international arena as well as in the Middle East and bilateral ties.

According to Huang Guo Quan [name as published] charge d'affaires at the embassy of the People's Republic of China, the minister will seek "ways to pushing the wheel of the peace process in the Middle East." [passage omitted]

"We want to fulfill our responsibility by aiding efforts to solve the Middle East problem and reach a just and peaceful solution," Huang told the Jordan Times Saturday.

China, Huang said, believes that the Palestinian issue "has reached a historically crucial stage," and that the only hurdle now to reaching a just and peaceful solution is "Israel's position."

He added that China does not accept Israel's "expansionist and aggressive policy; and we advise Israel to grasp the oportunity extended to it by Arab countries, including the Palestinians, to solve the problem through diplomatic and peaceful means."

Huang said that China feels that "the international situation has developed towards settlement (of regional conflict)."

China has not established diplomatic ties with Israel, but maintains "public relations."

We exchange scientists... Israelis have attended international conference in Beijing and vice-versa," Huang said.

But, he added, China has explained to Israel that diplomatic ties between the two countries are contingent on Israel's position towards the Middle East and the Palestinian issue.

The Chinese minister's visit to the Middle East is seen by the international media as a "good-will" visit after Beijing faced increased diplomatic isolation following its crackdown on prodemocracy protesters at the capital's central Tiananmen Square June 3. But, Huang said, the visit was scheduled as far back as six months.

Although the Chinese delegation, scheduled to arrive on Sept. 16, will be predominantly diplomatic, the foreign minister will meet with a number of Jordanian officials during his three-day official visit and will discuss with them ways of "balancing trade ties to accommodate Jordan in view of the current economic situation of the country." [passage omitted]

London Club Debt Repayment Talks Begin 9 Sep

JN1009072689 Amman JORDAN TIMES in English 10 Sep 89 p 1

[By staff writer]

[Text] Amman—The government Saturday [9 Sep] opened talks with the London Club of creditor banks on rescheduling the Kingdom's repayments of debts for 1989 and 1990.

No details were available on the meeting. Finance Minister Basil Jardanah and Central Bank Governor Muhammad Sa'id al-Nabulsi were heading the Jordanian side to the talks, informed sources said.

Jardanah said last week that Jordan was hoping to reschedule payments totalling about $450 million for this year and the next over a period of 10 years with five years grace. The total amount that the Kingdom owes to the London Club is $1.2 billion, he said.

The Amman talks are attended by a six-member steering committee set up in London in July. It represents some 90 Arab and Western creditors and is co-chaired by the Gulf International Bank and the Standard Chartered Bank and includes Manufacturer's Hanover Trust Corporation, the Commercial Bank of Kuwait, Banque Nationale de Paris and the Union des Banques Arabes et Francais. Jordan's Arab Bank Limited is acting as an advisor.

The talks are expected to conclude Sunday. Jardanah said Monday that Jordan hopes to sign minutes of the meeting Sunday, though a final agreement might take some time due to technical procedures.

The terms that Jordan is seeking from the London Club are similar to those the Kingdom secured with the Paris Club of creditor governments on rescheduling government-to-government debts in July.

Editorial Urges End to Demand for Drugs

JN1009064289 Amman JORDAN TIMES in English 10 Sep 89 p 4

[Editorial: "An International Anecdote (as published) to Drugs"]

[Text] The all-out war now being waged against drugs is one of the holiest of all wars ever. The initiative to launch such an attack to root out the drug scourge is being spearheaded by the U.S. in conjunction with some Latin American countries notably Colombia, and scores of other states in the four corners of the world. There is no doubt that this decision to take the bull by the horns will go a long way to check the mushrooming drug curse worldwide.

Nevertheless, the only decisive way to stem the burgeoning drug problem is to put an effective end to the widespread usage of drugs. As long as there is a demand for drugs no effort will be enough to eradicate their source. In fact, if the demand for drugs continues abated [as published], the battle at the source level will only exacerbate the issue and heighten the criminal dimensions of its conduits from the source to the user and customer. Accordingly, for the battle against the drug crisis to be won, there is always a need to wage it at both ends of the problem: the source as well as the user levels. It goes without saying that if and when the customer side of the equation can be eradicted then the source problem would have been dealt with automatically.

Of course to stop the public drug habit is a big order and would necessitate a multi-dimensional approach. In essence, the root problem is socio-economic, culminating in a psychological framework that defies easy answers. The decline of religion and spiritual pursuits, the decline of morality and the breakdown of family life have all accelerated the drug phenomenon in the industrial nations of the world. Poverty and deprivation, both political and educational, have on the other hands been the principal reason for the widespread resort to drugs in poor countries of the world. The tragedy lies in the fact that once a nation, rich or poor, becomes addicted to the disease, the tools available to reverse the tide become doubly difficult. [sentence as published] All these and similar proposition would warrant one to suggest the convening of an international conference to be attended by imminent personalities and experts in the phenomenon of drug abuse with a view to defining and articulating affective multi-disciplinary anecdotes to the rise of this scourge worldwide. [sentence as published] While allowing that it is not an orthodox policy to call on the U.N. Security Council to become seized with this kind of threat to security and peace, it would still be the right thing to do to put the machinery of the Security Council in the service of this global war effort to eradicate the drug crisis from the face of the Earth.

Political Groups Call for 'Greater Freedoms'

JN1009152589 Kuwait ARAB TIMES in English 9 Sep 89 p 11

[Text] Amman, Sept 8, (AP)—Several prominent political factions have agreed on a statement calling for greater freedoms as the country approaches its first nation-wide-elections in 22 years, a political activist said yesterday.

The document presents the government with an unusually unified opposition voice in a country where political parties have been outlawed for the past 30 years and martial law in force for 22 years.

But the groups that wrote it, including liberals, communists, socialists and Islamic fundamentalists, will not co-ordinate their November election campaigns, said Layth Shubaylat [President of the Jordanian Association of Engineers], secretary of drafting committee.

The document calls for eliminating martial law, for greater personal freedoms and for restraining the powers of the government to constitutional limits.

'Awn Cabinet Wants U.S. To Rethink Withdrawal

NC0809123089 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1115 GMT 8 Sep 89

[Text] The cabinet held a meeting today to review recent developments, especially the U.S. evacuation of its diplomats from Lebanon, conducted under the guise of feeble excuses that are not based on a minimum of objectivity.

The cabinet expressed regret and astonishment that the U.S. Administration based its decision on wrong interpretations and assumptions and false and malicious press rumors.

The cabinet expressed the hope that the U.S. Administration would reconsider its hasty decision out of concern for the relations and common interests between the Lebanese and U.S. peoples.

The cabinet would have liked for the U.S. Embassy to witness the shelling of Lebanese civilians with Syrian 240-mm and 180-mm shells and the continuation of the starvation blockade of the free areas instead of taking the position that it is unable to help a small country in waging a war of self-defense and for human rights against the violation of international laws, piracy, drug smuggling, and the export of terrorism to the free world.

The cabinet expressed satisfaction with indications that the Arab Committee will resume its mission and efforts with the aim of finding a solution to the Lebanese crisis that guarantees Lebanon's right to security, sovereignty, and independence.

'Awn Calls U.S. Embassy 'Spying Center'

NC0909200589 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1915 GMT 9 Sep 89

[Text] Prime Minister General Michel 'Awn has called on the United States not to support Syria's occupation of Lebanon.

In an interview with a U.S. television network, Gen 'Awn accused the Americans of having an intelligence cell in Lebanon and of turning the U.S. Embassy into a spying center. He added: They do not have a consulate here and do not grant entry visas. Outside of Lebanon, they do everything normally done by embassies.

But Gen 'Awn promised to ensure the safety of the U.S. Embassy staff if they return.

Referring to Washington's submission to Syrian influence in Lebanon, Gen 'Awn said: The Americans will most definitely become the target for more attacks all over the world because the U.S. Administration is making concessions to the terrorists.

Fadlallah Terms U.S. Exit 'Political Gain'

LD0809212389 Tehran in English to Europe 1930 GMT 8 Sep 89

[Text] During the Friday prayers in Lebanon today, prayer leaders considered the exit of U.S. diplomats from East Beirut as a political gain in a bid to [word indistinct] solution in Lebanon. Our correspondent reports from Beirut that on the situation in Lebanon, the prominent Lebanese scholar, al- 'Allamah Seyyed Muhammad Husayn Fadlallah said that with its political gains, the United States is intent on continuing the Lebanese crisis to preserve her own and Israel's interests. He said that big states like the United States or France only want to preserve their own interests and do not seek a political solution for Lebanon whatsoever.

Leader of Lebanon's Islamic Tawhid Movement, Shaykh Sa'id Sha'ban, [words indistinct] to fight against Lebanon, and said that the United States wants to turn Lebanon into a new Israel.

On the exit of the American diplomats from Beirut, in the Friday prayers' sermons of Sidon, Shaykh Maher Hamud, member of Lebanon's Muslim community, said: We are sure that America will not change its policies vis-a-vis the Muslims and will continue to support Michel 'Awn and his likes, as well as the (?troubled) system in Lebanon.

Gen 'Awn Interviewed on Syrian Occupation

PM0809134189 London AL-HAWADITH in Arabic 8 Sep 89 pp 14-18

[Interview with General Michel 'Awn, head of the Lebanese military government, by Elie Rizqallah in Beirut; date not given]

[Excerpts] AL-HAWADITH: The question being raised today is: Why did General Michel 'Awn call for dialogue around the table, when in the past he said many times: No dialogue under the Syrian gun and occupation. What made you change your position today? Is it a tactical position or backtracking?

'Awn: My position is still the same. It is neither a tactic nor backtracking. And until this moment I still say, as I said in the past, no dialogue under the Syrian gun and occupation. But by calling for dialogue I wanted to prove to everyone that there will be no dialogue under the Syrian gun, so long as the Syrians are determined to obstruct the dialogue. The motive for my demand for the elimination of the Syrian presence or occupation is to achieve dialogue and accord. But the response of those who deal with the Syrian occupation and its agents has always been: No. That is untrue. Gen 'Awn does not want dialogue. It is a secondary matter to him.

And if I call today for dialogue—even under the Syrian gun—it will be to prove to Lebanese, Arab, and world public opinion that the Syrian occupation would not allow the other side to engage in a dialogue with us.

Thus, I stress that my position is neither tactical nor backtracking. I am still the same person, Gen 'Awn. And, if you like, you can call my position an "explanatory position," so that agents will not, by obscuring words, penetrate some of the innocent consciences which do not understand the real situation. But today, now that the picture has become clear, we can express our stances—and here lies the challenge.

AL-HAWADITH: What you say implies that you still wager on accord, dialogue, and coexistence?

'Awn: It is my firm and certain stand. This is because the fall of coexistence in Lebanon means returning to the Middle Ages, not in Lebanon alone, but in the world as a whole. This is because Lebanon is the safety valve of the entire world. [passage omitted]

AL-HAWADITH: How would you explain Walid Junblatt's attitudes?

'Awn: Walid Junblatt chose to live so he became fearful. And he behaves on that basis. Today Junblatt is facing a real danger, because he is scared. And the fearful must behave like that.

Walid Junblatt today lives in constant fright, and what emanates from him is nothing but a reaction from someone who is frightened. And what he says is not balanced. So why does he threaten the Christians of east [Beirut]? Who is Walid Junblatt to the Christians in the east, in terms of size and power?... Nothing. And even if the "baldheaded girl is proud of her aunt's hair," Syria too is nothing to the Christian in the east. This is simply what I believe.

So it is unreliable talk by someone who is frightened, and what would terrify him even further is not to respond to him.

And in his statements we notice some claims as if he wants people to understand that he achieved victory in Suq al-Gharb. Fine, (laughing) let him enjoy those imaginary victories, but he must convince his group of that victory first and then stop wailing in all the villages, thus sparing himself and us many things... (laughing)

AL-HAWADITH: But Walid Junblatt wants to annex the mountain, the western area [of Beirut], the suburbs, al-Biqa', and the north to Syria, leaving Juniyah and Kasrawan for the Maronites and the Christians, as he said. And he repeated that proposal 2 days ago.

'Awn: When Junblatt possesses the capability to distribute, sell, and purchase, then we will think about replying to him. This is because I cannot respond to him. I cannot respond to someone who not capable of protecting himself in his own home. He also pursues a policy which is bigger than him.

AL-HAWADITH: Do you believe that reducing the powers of the president of the Republic would achieve accord and limit divisions?

'Awn: Such matters are to be raised at the roundtable, and I consider myself outside that table, because I will not be representing the Christians. [passage omitted]

AL-HAWADITH: After the Suq al-Gharb battle, where are we in terms of where we go from here?

'Awn: My policy is a mixture of resistance and extending hands, that is, according to a defined credibility, to the point that all the Arab states have become convinced of our credibility and our determination to continue the march of resistance and liberation right to the end. Furthermore, the world as a whole is now convinced of our march—that is, except Syria or the Syrian regime. If it too accepts it, it will spare us many things. If it refuses to accept it, the price will be high for us. But for them, the price will be double that. This is because our size has been reduced to a minimum, so what we are going to do from now on will increase our size.

When I assumed my responsibilities in the government I extended my hand to Syria, and I had no Arab or international dimensions. I have always been just head of the Lebanese, half of whom Syria obstructed. It also divided Lebanon's Army and the public security organ. That is what has actually happened, whether through terror or temptation.

I turned to the Syrians with a sincere desire to reach an understanding, but they did not exchange a similar step with me, considering me a "small general."

Anyway, thank God I am small for Syria's sake. What I would have done to Syria had I been big.

AL-HAWADITH: What is your opinion of the international military moves being made, as in France's case, and the diplomatic level, as in the U.S. and the Soviet Union's case. Do you expect anything in the near future vis-a-vis a solution to the Lebanese crisis?

'Awn: When certain forces make a move under an international cover, especially from the Security Council, we cannot consider such a move just a pleasure trip.

Thus, I stress that that move is a serious action toward a solution. And I do not believe that the French move was made without that international cover.

AL-HAWADITH: But according to the facts available to you, when will a solution be achieved?

'Awn: The solution has started, but the important thing is for it not to face obstacles and for the Syrian regime not to be stricken by desperation, especially as it tried to carry out the Suq al-Gharb operation during the period separating the UN Security Council's appeal and the Arab committee's report. And today I hope that the Syrian regime will not try again to rush things, otherwise it will be slapped again.

The Syrian regime has an amazing and strange policy: If it wins, it gives nothing; and if it loses, it rejects everything. It is an amazing policy which I cannot understand. I do not know when I can speak with it. This is why I called that regime a "regime outside the context of the age."

AL-HAWADITH: What is your reply to those who consider that the "liberation battle" has complicated the Lebanese crisis, when minutes ago you affirmed that the solution has begun?

'Awn: I cannot deduce intentions, but I can affirm that whoever says the "liberation battle" has complicated the Lebanese crisis is either politically ignorant of the major politics, not that of a hamlet or a village, or an agent.

And here I ask: How can Lebanon be salvaged? By kissing hands and beards and earnest supplication?

I also tell these people: Give one single historic example of the means they used over the 15-year crisis to try to achieve any solution to that crisis.

And if I have complicated the Lebanese crisis, it is in an effort to get it out of the siege imposed on it and on the Lebanese people, who have been exposed to a whirlpool comprising Israel, Syria, and the United States. These three turned the Lebanese people into a football. Where was the Lebanese decision? Only today has it become Lebanese. That Lebanese decision alarmed the Americans, the Israelis, and the Syrians.

Tell me: Where has the Lebanese decision been since the eruption of the Lebanese crisis until now? We were a commodity. We did not exist. We were brokers on U.S., Israeli, and Syrian roads, like someone extending his hand at a bank counter to get some cash, or pleading for a visit or charity.

Tell me: Where are the brokers who used to go to Damascus with money and gifts, exactly like what used to happen before the Sublime Porte in the Ottoman era?

Which of those who visited Damascus managed to keep his head high or remained proud of his actions? Which one of them said he wanted solutions? I want to risk my life in order to achieve a solution. I want to fight, whether or not they are with me, in order to realize the solution.

AL-HAWADITH: What did former President Amin al-Amin al-Jumayyil do during his visits to Damascus and places other than Damascus? What was his role?

'Awn: I cannot rule for or against him. He tried to achieve some kind of a solution with Syria, the United States, Israel, and with the world as a whole, but they all put pressure on him and deceived him. Israel deceived him when he tried with it, exactly as Syria and the United States did when he turned to them several times. As for the Lebanese people, they subjected them to fragmentation and appeasement prizes, and they are still continuing their attempts today. They also expressed their discontent at Iraq's backing for us. Why? Has Iraq military forces in Lebanon? Has it imposed on us a particular political decision? Iraq is the only country which matched its words with deeds despite its sufferings during the Gulf war. It has helped and continues to provide its aid to restore Lebanon's independence and sovereignty.

Why was the United States displeased with the Iraqi position and why did it then become concerned about Damascus' security in the face of "sloppy" Michel 'Awn who is leading a handful of military men fighting for their remaining free and sovereign land with the rest of the Lebanese. What a historic shame on the new U.S. Administration. It is a historic shame on that administration and on any state that opposed the delivery of munitions to a small people like us to enable them to defend themselves.

Why do they fear our acquisition of munitions from Iraq, when they deny us spare parts? With their fleets they have also obstructed the delivery of spare parts to us. With their fleets they have also prevented commercial ships from reaching our shores.

AL-HAWADITH: While Israel is watching?

'Awn: Let it watch. We have never asked it to help us. We are asking it to sever the mutual agreement and solidarity between it and Syria with regard to sharing our territory, and us, with U.S. blessing.

AL-HAWADITH: Do you believe that Arab states provide aid to the "national forces" opposed to you and allied with Damascus?

'Awn: I believe that today the Arabs have the conviction that had those "national and Islamic forces" existed, they would have met together and at their own initiative, not like Damascus does each time it needs to gather them around one table by cracking a whip like an animal trainer.

I cannot understand how these can meet together within the framework of one political front. Ideologically, they have nothing in common.

Here I would like to ask: How can Hizballah meet with the Communist Party? How can the National Party meet with the Progressive Socialist Party or Hizballah? What common political objective do they have or on which they can agree?

They have one thing in common—they are working against us.

AL-HAWADITH: Why do they work against you? And who manages them?

'Awn: Syria. It is the only pressuring force. This is why I do not deal with them. I only deal with the free side. This is why I recognize Syria as the only force which I confront. I do not recognize the Communist Party, the

Socialist Party, Hizballah, or anyone else. Syria is here and plays the conductor's role.

AL-HAWADITH: Will you be able to defeat Syria in Lebanon, as you emphasized some time ago?

'Awn: No doubt about that. Syria's defeat in Lebanon is a historic inevitability, but we do not want to defeat it. Our prime objective is the restoration of our sovereignty, not Syria's defeat. We are not seeking to defeat Syria or to be hostile to it. Let Syria live the way it wants. Besides, the Syrian people are capable of determining their fate and their revolution against the regime. We wish the Syrian regime well. But it must free us and leave us to determine our own fate. We are fighting for Lebanon's sovereignty and independence in order to live free in Lebanon, and we do not want to die for the Syrian regime.

AL-HAWADITH: What about the fate of Syria's allies after the withdrawal of its army from Lebanon? What will their fate be?

'Awn: The Druze will have to decide Junblatt's fate, the Shiites will have to determine Nabih Birri's fate, and every group will have to settle their accounts with each of them.

AL-HAWADITH: Do you have any Syrian POW's?

'Awn: Yes, we have POW's. One of them died of his wounds, not to mention the one who came to us after his officer was killed. But what attracts the attention is that many have fled the Syrian Army and the battlefields.

What did [Syrian Defense Minister] Talas say? He stressed that he is fighting on his own territory. Whom do we believe: Al-Shar', Talas, or others? Besides, where is the United States, which can detect the movements of an ant anywhere in the world. Can it not detect who is shelling from al-Matn or from elsewhere? Can the United States not detect military convoys and where they come from?

AL-HAWADITH: Does that mean that you hold Syria fully responsible?

'Awn: Yes, I hold it fully responsible. This, because no one can fire a bullet without its knowledge or approval.

AL-HAWADITH: What does Syria want from Lebanon?

'Awn: Syria wants to swallow up Lebanon, and that falls within the framework of contemporary colonialism.

AL-HAWADITH: But Syria entered Lebanon under the slogan of protecting Lebanon and the Christians. So where do these slogans fit in today's reality?

'Awn: These slogans fall within the framework of impudent lies. And as is customary, our politicians in Lebanon agreed with Syria on fundamental things and propounded that Syrian lie among the people. And here I ask: Who burned al-Damur? Ask the people of Zgharta: Who attacked Zgharta and who invaded the Lebanese Army's positions?

AL-HAWADITH: And what is the Arab states' position?

'Awn: The Arab states have begun to take a position.

AL-HAWADITH: And will the tripartite committee resume its role?

'Awn: It has issued its ruling, and I hope the next Arab summit will be held soon. Some Arab leaders have demanded that it be convened in order to discuss means of resolving the Lebanese crisis. This is the knowledge that the tripartite committee has diagnosed the disease—the Syrian disease.

AL-HAWADITH: What is your opinion of what the tripartite committee has done?

'Awn: The tripartite committee was not working alone. It has received international backing. And now the UN Security Council has begun to made a move—that is, alongside the tripartite committee—proceeding from the appeal which it launched recently.

AL-HAWADITH: How would you describe Syrian Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar''s letter to the tripartite committee?

'Awn: It misled public opinion. And the tripartite committee was not affected by it, because it is familiar with all the facts.

AL-HAWADITH: What was the objective of your meeting with Lebanese Forces leader Dr Samir Ja'ja' on the eve of the Suq al-Gharb battle? Was it to do with coordination?

'Awn: The objective of that meeting was to review developments in the Lebanese crisis. It was also a response to the rumors launched here and there about possible conflicts between the Army and the Lebanese Forces.

AL-HAWADITH: A Palestinian official from Yasir 'Arafat's wing said that you will enter west Beirut, that the Syrians will leave the war for the militias allied with them, and that they will shell Muslims, Christians, and Druze from the mountains. What is your comment?

'Awn: With regard to the last part of the question, the Syrians always apply it in order to create an atmosphere of confusion, especially since the human element is of no real value to them. As for my entry into west Beirut, that would be decided later, after I reach an understanding with the Lebanese militias there, namely, when they become free from any Syrian pressure. No problem in that regard. An understanding can be reached without any fighting. We have an army in west Beirut, and I consider myself present in west Beirut through that army.

AL-HAWADITH: After the fierce shelling and the destruction operations to which the presidential palace—the residence of Lebanese legitimacy—and the National Defense Ministry in al-Yarzah have been exposed, what is your opinion of what has been said about your desire to shell Damascus?

'Awn: I would like to explain something before I answer your question: Lebanese legitimacy has long been destroyed. As for the destruction of bricks, do not ask me about it.

Lebanese legitimacy has been destroyed since the Syrian regime started to insult the president of the Lebanese Republic and the prime minister without anyone having the courage to confront it. Lebanese legitimacy has been destroyed since that time.

As for bricks, they are not important to me, since we can start the rebuilding process.

But today the situation is different. Legitimacy is now at its peak, especially since Gen 'Awn confronted the Syrian regime, in particular Hafiz al-Asad. I told him "take hold of your group and stop their rage," because they might turn against you as well. I also told Hafiz al-Asad: You must change your method, and from now on the Syrian regime must not challenge the Lebanese leader, because all the accusations directed at him actually apply to you. The Syrian regime accuses us of Zionism, when everyone knows which Arab regime has achieved all Zionism's objectives in the Middle East.

As for shelling Damascus, if I had any arms that enabled me to shell Damascus, I would not do it, and I will not do it, because by shelling Damascus I would be exposing the Syrian people to that shelling. They are a fraternal and desperate people. Look and see what the Syrian regime did to the cities of Hamah and Hims, and to the mosques, let alone the operations of murder and torture against the Syrian people.

The Syrian people are human beings like us. They have children and want peace. I am today in the process of resisting the Syrian regime which is destroying me and the Lebanese people.

AL-HAWADITH: Information has been leaked about the possibility of reviving the U.S.-Syrian dialogue in order to contribute to resolving the Lebanese crisis. What is your information and opinion?

'Awn: No dialogue with anyone unless Lebanon is involved directly in that dialogue. I do not believe in the existence of a U.S.-Syrian dialogue on Lebanon. I said, and still say, "No good will come of it," as was the case in the past. I do not accept that Israel reach an understanding with Syria nor that the United States reach an understanding with Syria. We are here. When we do not exist, then they can decide what they want.

AL-HAWADITH: What is the truth about U.S. policy on the Lebanese crisis?

'Awn: There is nothing called U.S. policy. There is something which is pushing matters backward in order for them to be resolved naturally, or to prevent other groups from doing anything.

And if we want to define U.S. policy, we would say that it is the policy of preventing people from doing anything so that Washington will not be alarmed. Washington becomes alarmed when anyone makes a move because of its material responsibility.

AL-HAWADITH: Is the French move not backed in one way or another by the United States?

'Awn: I believe so, especially in view of the development of events. Anyhow, we cannot say that the French move is backed by the United States. It is operating under the U.S. "elbow" policy, that is, under the pressure of events. This is because the United States no longer says No to France, although it did in the past when Paris tried to reactivate the UN Security Council.

AL-HAWADITH: What about Soviet policy on the Lebanese crisis? Do you not believe that there is a duality in it?

'Awn: I do not believe so. There has been a major change in Soviet policy. This is in the knowledge that the major states cannot change their policies overnight.

The Soviet Union has a comprehensive view of the Lebanese crisis and views it in terms of its Israeli and Syrian dimensions. It also views it with both eyes.

AL-HAWADITH: And is Iraq ready to help you militarily, if needed?

'Awn: We have not discussed that subject. We made our decisions by ourselves and Iraq hastened to support us. And I cannot ask it to help us militarily.

Agreement on Cease-Fire Reached in Belgrade

NC1009081089 (Clandestine) Voice of the Oppressed in Arabic to Lebanon 0630 GMT 10 Sep 89

[Text] Quoting a political source in Beirut, the Abu Dhabi paper AL-ITTIHAD reports that an agreement in principle on implementing a comprehensive cease-fire in Lebanon was reached during the discussions which took place on the sidelines of the nonaligned summit in Belgrade. The paper explains that the cease-fire entails the lifting of the blockades, the resumption of work at all utility companies, and the reopening of all crossing points. This is the situation which prevailed before 14 March [when General 'Awn announced the start of the war of liberation].

Al-ITTIHAD adds that Moscow, Paris, Washington, and the parties concerned have agreed that a committee of international observers be formed to monitor the coast.

According to the political source, the Chamber of Deputies will be invited to meet abroad to discuss ways of implementing political reforms.

AL-BAYAN Reports Soviet Deployment to Beirut

NC1009124089 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0915 GMT 10 Sep 89

[Text] The United Arab Emirates newspaper AL-BAYAN has reported that the ministers of the Arab tripartite committee will visit Damascus after meeting in Jeddah on 13 September. It added that the Damascus visit will pave the way for a summit of the higher tripartite committee.

The newspaper quoted Syrian sources as saying that Syrian Vice President 'Abd-al-Halim Khaddam is optimistic that the committee will make progress in its new mission. The paper also said that the tripartite committee might implement a balanced plan to guarantee a cease-fire, lift the blockades, and prepare for a political solution.

The Abu Dhabi paper AL-ITTIHAD has cited a diplomatic source as noting that among the proposals for consolidating the cease-fire is a proposal to form a military observers committee comprising officers from the United Nations, the USSR, France, and the member states of the tripartite committee. It added that UN and French units will monitor Lebanese ports and all ships entering the ports. Other military units, both Soviet and Arab, will deploy in both sectors of Beirut and monitor the coast. This will be done according to an agreement formerly reached by special envoy Lakhdar Ibrahimi with the Lebanese parties during his last visit to Beirut.

Clashes Continue Despite Tripartite Committee

NC1009070789 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 0445 GMT 10 Sep 89

[Excerpt] It has been 180 days since the war of liberation was launched. Signs of a breakthrough that appear amid the talk about the resumption of the Arab tripartite committee's mission and its planned meeting for next Wednesday have made no difference in the situation.

Despite the Lebanese people's hopes for an abatement of the military escalation before the committee reembarks on its mission, they are nightly shocked by an escalation of fighting during which shells fall on their houses and property. Residential areas along the Kasrawan and northern al-Matn coasts and in 'Ayn al-Rummanah and al-Ashrafiyah were bombarded between 0030 and 0330 today by Syrian artillery emplacements in West Beirut, al-Mughithi, al-Mudayrij, and Sawfar. The coast of Jubayl came under similar shelling. The bombardment was accompanied by tension on the fronts. Clashes occurred on the Ra's al-Nab' and Sodeco-al-Barjawi, Suq al-Gharb and 'Aytat, Dahr al-Wahsh and 'Alayh, 'Ayn al-Tuffahah and Zighrin, and Bsaba and al-Ma'Rufiyah confrontation lines. During the fighting, shells fell on residential neighborhoods close to the combat lines. [passage omitted]

Committee Ministers To Visit Syria

JN1009102889 Abu Dhabi Domestic Service in Arabic 0930 GMT 10 Sep 89

[Text] Press reports have said that the foreign ministers of the Arab tripartite committee tasked with resolving the Lebanese crisis will soon visit Syria after the end of the preparatory meeting which they will hold in Jeddah on Wednesday [13 September] to pave the way for a meeting of the members of the higher tripartite committee.

Today's issue of the newspaper AL-BAYAN quoted informed sources as saying that the ministers of the tripartite committee are studying the possibility of visiting Beirut, considering that one of the criticisms voiced against their previous contacts is their failure to visit the Lebanese capital and acquaint themselves with the situation on the ground.

Informed sources told the newspaper that Syria proposed, during contacts held with the higher Arab committee before the announcement on the resumption of its efforts was made, settling the issue pertaining to Lebanese-Syrian ties, especially the portion concerning the [Syrian] military presence in Lebanon within the framework of negotiations to be held between the Syrian and Lebanese Governments after the establishment of a government of national unity in Lebanon. The newspaper added that the Arab committee might opt for the implementation of a balanced plan in its efforts to consolidate the cease-fire, lift the blockades, and prepare for a political solution to the crisis.

Israeli Fighters Strafe Bhamdun, Al-Damur

NC1009131889 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1308 GMT 10 Sep 89

[Text] We were informed a short while ago that Israeli warplanes strafed [qasaf] targets in the Bhamdun area. The Israeli fighters drew intensive antiaircraft fire. We have just learned that the Israeli warplanes also strafed military targets in al-Damur.

Raids on Bhamdun Denied

NC1009154989 Beirut Voice of National Resistance in Arabic 1430 GMT 10 Sep 89

[Text] Zionist warplanes have made frequent flights over Beirut, the Southern Suburb, the Mountain, the coastal area, and Iqlim al-Khurrub since 1500 today, drawing antiaircraft fire. Flying at a low altitude, the enemy aircraft carried out mock raids over the Mountain region. Security sources in the Mountain denied East Beirut media reports that the enemy aircraft carried out raids on Bhamdun and Ba'lshmayh.

Army Communique on Shelling of Maritime Targets

NC0909122189 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 1130 GMT 9 Sep 89

[Text] Israeli warplanes flew over the South, the capital, and the Mountain, breaking the sound barrier at around 1300 today.

Also, the Army command in Beirut has issued the following communique: At 0700 today, a maritime target appeared opposite the Tabarja coast. Our artillery shelled it to prevent it from reaching the eastern area ports in implementation of the decision to prevent arms from being dispatched to these areas.

For its part, the operations room of the National Movement said this morning that at 0145 today its artillery shelled a maritime target trying to approach Juniyah Port.

National Front Destroys 3 Army Positions

NC1009073289 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 0430 GMT 10 Sep 89

[Text] Since yesterday morning, 'Awn gangs have continued to disrupt security on the combat lines of the capital, the suburb, and the mountain where sporadic fighting continues, particularly on the Ra's al-Nab' and Sodeco lines in Beirut. The fighting intensified at noon and spread to new areas in the evening. The clashes, which spread to most confrontation lines, were accompanied by a bombardment of residential neighborhoods in the capital and the mountain and extended to Corniche al-Mazra'ah, the Cola area, al- Musaytibah, al-Tariq al-Jadidah, and al-Barbir. Intermittent fighting occurred on the Baysyr-Kayfun-Suq al-Gharb and 'Alayh-Dahr al-Wahsh fronts. The city of 'Alayh and the townships of Shwit and Duhur al-'Ibadiyah and the Baysur and Kayfun hills came under intense artillery bombardment. In northern al-Matn, violent fighting took place on the Shrin, 'Ayn al-Tuffahah, al-'Ayrun, al-Dawwar, and Zighrin lines.

The Lebanese National Front announced in two separate statements that it had destroyed three positions belonging to the sectarian gangs on the Shrin-'Ayn al-Tuffahah and al-Wazzal-al-Qaysariyah fronts, wounding all personnel manning these positions, including officer Wilson Nujaym, who sustained serious injuries.

The National Front also announced that one of its groups attacked and burned a military vehicle belonging to the al-Yarzah [Lebanese Army] gangs in the Duhur al-Shuwayr al-Sawwan area, wounding all its occupants.

Group Claims Responsibility for Israel Attack

NC1009110389 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 0945 GMT 10 Sep 89

[Text] The so-called Lebanese National Resistance has issued a statement claiming responsibility for the confrontation with Israeli forces in Mount Hermon and the eastern sector at dawn yesterday. The statement added that the operation was carried out by the Suha Bishara and Anwar Yasin group and said further details will be provided.

Resistance Issues Statement

NC1009142689 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 1300 GMT 10 Sep 89

[Text] The Lebanese National Resistance Front has claimed responsibility for the confrontation that raged at dawn yesterday with the Israeli occupation forces in the Mount Hermon and eastern sector areas.

A statement issued by the Front said: At the start of celebrations to mark the 7th anniversary of the Lebanese National Resistance Front, heroes from the units of the hero prisoners Suha Bisharah and Anwar Yasin and their comrades began a series of operations against the Israeli occupation forces and their agents in the areas al-'Urqub, Marj 'Uyun, Hasbayya, and the slopes of Mount Hermon.

At 2130 on Friday night, 8 September, the martyr Jamal Safiyah unit attacked an occupation position near Kafr Shuba.

At 0200 on Saturday, 9 September, the martyr Farajallah Fu'ani unit attacked the fortified Israeli position in Tallat al-Shurayki east of Marj 'Uyun. The resistance fighters attacked the position's sentry post with hand grenades and rockets while at the same time a clash was raging with the armored vehicles that defended the position. As a result of the confirmed casualties in the enemy ranks, the latter launched a large scale search operation using artillery against our fighters while they were retreating. This required retaliation with rockets against the enemy troops and artillery emplacements in Tallat Abu Qamhah, Zumrayya, and al-Shurayki.

The confrontation continued throughout yesterday in many positions, particularly on the slopes of Mount Hermon where the martyr Muhammad 'Ubayd unit attacked an enemy patrol last night and engaged it in hand-to-hand combat for a few hours. The enemy used all types of weapons during the clash and fired dozens of flares and also launched an all-out combing operation in the area. The enemy radio admitted the operation but attempted to belittle the casualties, claiming that only one soldier was killed.

At the same time, the martyr George Nasrallah unit attacked an enemy patrol that was traveling between al-Habbariyah and al-Fardis.

The statement said that the leaders of the Lebanese National Resistance Front did not publicize the operation from its beginning, but waited until it was over. They will subsequently provide the public with details of the continuing confrontations and their heroic results. It stressed the determination to maintain the unity of the rifle that is fighting Israel and its agents in the country and called for more unity of ranks between the Lebanese

National Resistance Front, the Islamic resistance, and the Lebanese resistance brigades-Amal within the framework of the National Front for Liberation from the Israeli occupation. The heroes of the Suha Bisharah and Anwar Yasin operation also hailed their comrades and brothers in the National Lebanese Resistance Front who are fighting the military dictatorship of Michel 'Awn and his clique.

PFLP Claims Responsibility

NC1009111089 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1015 GMT 10 Sep 89

[Text] In a statement issued in Beirut today, the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine [PFLP] claimed responsibility for an attack on Israel from southern Lebanon in which an Israeli soldier and a PFLP gunman died. A PFLP spokesman said the Israelis suffered heavy losses during the clash. The Lebanese National Resistance has also claimed responsibility for the Mount Hermon clash.

Army Clashes With Syrian Forces in Beirut

NC1009125689 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1045 GMT 10 Sep 89

[Excerpts] Clashes with machineguns, rockets, and tank guns occurred along the al-Dawwar and al-'Ayrun combat lines in al-Matn shortly after 1300 today. The fighting is currently limited to skirmishes. Meanwhile, sniper fire is being directed at townships in the area. Limited skirmishes were also reported on the 'Ayn-al-Tuffahah and Zighrin lines at noon. [passage omitted]

We have just been informed that sporadic clashes with machineguns and rockets are taking place on the Primo, al-Barjawi, Ra's al-Nab', and the Museum-al-Barbir combat lines between Lebanese Army positions and the Syrian occupation forces.

Shelling Continues in Southern Suburb; 1 Killed

NC1009155489 Beirut Voice of National Resistance in Arabic 1430 GMT 10 Sep 89

[Text] The al-Yarzah Army and the Lebanese forces fired a number of artillery shells at residential neighborhoods adjacent to the confrontation lines in Beirut, the Southern Suburb, and the Mountain. Several artillery shells fell in the al-Shiyah area at 1530 today, killing one person. An artillery shell also fell in the Ard Jallul area, in the al-Tariq al-Jadidah district. This coincided with heavy clashes involving rockets and automatic weapons on the confrontation lines of Dar al-Kitab-al-Tayyunah in al-Shiyah and al-Mu'allim in Sufayr. Clashes are still continuing on these lines. Shell fire is being heard in near and distant residential neighborhoods.

Sporadic skirmishes are taking place on the confrontation lines of al-'Ayrun, al-Dawwar, 'Ayn al-Tuffahah, and Shrin in al-Matn. Intermittent clashes were also reported on the Suq al-Gharb-'Aytat combat lines in the Mountain, and sniper fire on the al-Karamah road.

Sporadic clashes are continuing on the Beirut confrontation lines, particularly on the Sodeco and Ra's al-Nab' lines, following intermittent clashes which began at 1500 today.

East Beirut media reported that the northern al-Matn and al-Ashrafiyah areas have come under shell fire.

More on Weekend Shelling

NC1009170589 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1615 GMT 10 Sep 89

[Excerpts] The weekend holiday did not turn out as the Lebanese hoped it would. Heavy Syrian shelling resumed this evening on various fronts and axes. Shells fell indiscriminately in residential neighborhoods adjacent to the confrontation lines, from Kafr Shima and al-Kahhalah to al-Hazimiyah, al-Hadath, al-Fayyadiyah, al-Yarzah, B'abda, and al-Matn. The escalation is continuing. Security sources have called on the people to take maximum caution because of the Syrian forces apparent intention to escalate the situation.

Clashes broke out on the Dahr al-Wahsh, 'Alayh, Suq al-Gharb, and 'Aytat front at 1700 today. Artillery shells and rockets rained heavily on the area. The area of the clashes soon extended to the al-Tayyunah combat lines at 1730. Many shells fell in adjacent neighborhoods, particularly in Badaru and 'Ayn al-Rummanah.

Sniper fire is being exchanged on the Zighrin and 'Ayn al-Tuffahah confrontation lines.

At 1530 today an artillery shell fell on the northern al-Matn coast. This was preceded by a number of shells which hit al-Ashrafiyah.

West Beirut media have reported that one person was killed and two others were wounded in the Cola area.

Observers have noted that the fresh escalation came prior to the meeting of the Arab Tripartite Committee in Jeddah, which is to make an effort to consolidate the cease-fire, lift the blockades, and open the crossing points. [passage omitted]

We have just learned that fighting has intensified a short while ago on the Zighrin and 'Ayn al-Tuffahah combat lines. Rockets and artillery are being employed in the clashes.

5 Killed, 15 Wounded

NC1009201689 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1915 GMT 10 Sep 89

[Text] Syrian shelling of the central al-Matn and the upper Kasrawan regions has been going on since 2030 today. Syrian shell fire has been targeting the northern al-Matn coast since 2130.

Fierce clashes are continuing on the al-'Ayrun-al-Dawwar and Zighrin-'Ayn al-Tuffahah fronts in upper al-Matn. Syrian artillery emplacements in Duhur al-Shuwayr, Bulunya, al-Za'rur, and Qurnayil are shelling the areas of Bikfayya, Dahr al-Suwwan, al-Dawwar, 'Ayn al-Tuffahah, Zabbughah, and other villages in the central al-Matn and the upper Kasrawan regions, particularly the al-Qulay'at area. Residential neighborhoods in al-Dubayyah and Antilyas, on the al-Matn coast, were shelled.

Clashes on the Dahr al-Wahsh-'Alayh and Suq al-Gharb-'Aytat fronts have abated following a fierce round of fighting this evening during which the Syrians shelled the towns of southern al-Matn, particularly B'abda, the presidential palace, al-Yarzah, al-Fayyadiyah, al-Hadath, al-Hazimiyah, and 'Ayn al-Rummanah. A Syrian shell fell in the al-Ashrafiyah area at about 2030.

Intermittent skirmishes with light weapons and rockets are continuing on the Kafr Shima-al-Shuwayfat and Bsaba-al-Ma'Rufiyah fronts.

The Syrian attacks and clashes today left 5 people dead and 15 others wounded, including 3 dead and 11 wounded in the eastern areas.

The Lebanese Army retaliated against the sources of Syrian fire in Shimlan, near a Progressive Socialist Party center, and in 'Aramun, al-'Abbadiyah, Bulunya, Duhur al-Shuwayr, al-Mudayrij, al- Za'rur, and Qurnayil. It destroyed a Syrian tank in al-'Abbadiyah and a rocket launcher in the Bi'r al-Shaykh Harith area.

Army Command Statement on Military Escalation

NC1109080789 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0700 GMT 11 Sep 89

[Text] The Army Command's Guidance Directorate in Beirut has issued the following statement:

As it does whenever positive signs appear, such as the upcoming meeting of the Arab tripartite committee, the al-Yarzah ['Awn forces] command escalated the military situation on the confrontation lines and deep inside the residential areas to obstruct every effort that is designed to close the security file and open the political file of the Lebanese crisis.

Since 1700 yesterday, acts of aggression involving automatic weapons and rockets were committed on the Suq al-Gharb and northern al-Matn lines as well as on the confrontation lines in the capital and its Southern Suburb. Residential areas in Beirut, the Southern Suburb, and the Mountain were shelled. Scores of people were killed or wounded as a result of these acts of aggression Our military positions in the areas of the old markets, al-Khandaq al-Ghamiq, and al-Shiyah were shelled. Two military men were wounded. Our forces were compelled to retaliate to silence the sources of fire.

In another statement issued a short time ago, the Army Command said: At 0130 today, a maritime target appeared off the Juniyah coast. Our artillery fired at it to prevent it from reaching the eastern ports, in accordance with the decision banning the entry of arms and ammunition.

Syrians Divert Supply Ships to Tripoli

NC1109104189 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 0945 GMT 11 Sep 89

[Text] Our radio has learned that at midday today the Syrian Navy intercepted two ships carrying supplies [bakhiratayn tamwiniyyatayn] at a distance of 20 miles from the coast of the eastern areas. The two ships, the "Carla" and the ("Tinax Star"), were forced to sail to Tripoli port.

Khaddam Returns From Nonaligned Conference

Wraps Up Belgrade Visit

JN0809161889 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1515 GMT 8 Sep 89

[Text] At 1415 today, Vice President 'Abd-al-Halim Khaddam returned to Damascus from the Yugoslav capital, Belgrade, after heading the Syrian Arab delegation to the ninth summit of the Nonaligned Movement's member states. Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar' and the other members of the Syrian Arab delegation to the summit returned along with the vice president.

Meets Egyptian Labor Group

JN1009145689 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1115 GMT 10 Sep 89

[Text] Vice President 'Abd-al-Halim Khaddam received at 1000 today the Egyptian General Federation of Trade Unions delegation. The delegation is headed by Ahmad al-'Amawi and includes Comrade 'Izz-al-Din Nasir, chairman of the Syrian General Federation of Trade Unions.

During the meeting, the conversation centered on the brotherly relations between Syria and Egypt and their historic role in the struggle for the Arab nation's causes and the protection of Arab soil. The conversation also focused on the pan-Arab role of the working class in Syria and Egypt, and on the need to strengthen the pan-Arab and unionist line in the Arab arena against the threats facing the Arab nation.

All aspects of the Arab situation, including the situation in Lebanon, also were reviewed.

Yasin Returns From Joint Talks in Argentina

JN1009160689 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1430 GMT 10 Sep 89

[Text] Damascus, 10 Sep (SANA)—Dr Salim Yasin, deputy prime minister for economic affairs, has returned to Damascus from Buenos Aires following a week-long visit to Agentina. During the visit, Yasin held talks with Argentine officials on improving economic, trade, scientific, technical, and cultural relations. A number of agreements and protocols in these fields were signed during the visit.

The joint Syrian-Argentine committee concluded a series of meetings last Thursday [7 September] in Buenos Aires. During the meetings, both parties expressed satisfaction over the progress of negotiations and discussions and the positive results achieved. Both sides also expressed the hope that these results would constitute the first steps in continuing, expanding, and diversifying cooperation between the two countries on a basis of common interests and mutual benefit.

Information Minister on Lebanon, France, Iraq

JN1009070489 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0415 GMT 10 Sep 89

[Text] Information Minister Muhammad Salman has said that Syria will continue to support the mission of the Arab tripartite committee regarding the implementation of the Casablanca summit resolutions. He added that Syria will provide everything that might help the committee in its efforts. He went on to say: We are sure that the committee will manage to tackle the problems in Lebanon in light of the Casablanca summit resolutions.

In an interview with the Lebanese magazine AL-SHIRA', the information minister indicated that political reforms in Lebanon are demanded by the overwhelming majority of Lebanese. He also indicated that political reforms are endorsed by an Arab commitment that enjoys international support because the issue of reforms is central to resovling the crisis plaguing Lebanon. He added: 'Awn's attempts to explode the situation and force the tackling of issues that are basically results of the crisis will not change this fact.

In reply to a question on the recent French move, the information minister said: The dispatch of the French fleet [to the Lebanese coast] created a situation charged with dangers and complications. However, these dangers subsided with the progress of the Syrian-French dialogue and when the French realized that the solution would not be a military one, and that no solution is attainable in Lebanon without Syrian help.

The information minister pointed out that France is well aware of the facts pertaining to the situation in Lebanon in particular and in the Middle East in general. He added: President Mitterrand, during his Damascus visit in 1984 and the talks that he held with His Excellency President Hafiz al-Asad, affirmed his full knowledge of the region's reality and problems. During this visit, Mitterrand also affirmed his understanding of the uniqueness of the relationship binding the Syrians to the Lebanese when he indicated that they belonged to one nation and family. He expressed one aspect of the Lebanese crisis when he said that Israel did not have the right to enter Lebanon.

In reply to a question on the Iraq-Iran war, Information Minister Muhammad Salman said: From the outset, the Iraqi regime has sought to drag the Arab nation into a conflict that Iraq has chosen, worked to explode, and viewed as an alternative to the Arab-Israeli conflict. He added: The Iraqi regime, which consulted nobody when deciding to declare war on Iran, does not have the right to embroil the Arabs in the furnace of war against a state that announced it is siding with the Arab nation in its struggle against Zionism and Israel.

The information minister went on to say: As a matter of fact, the Iraqi regime does not want any normal relations

with Syria. Previously, this regime financed and masterminded subversive operations against Syria and perpetrated a massacre in which it liquidated a large number of key Iraqi figures on the pretext that these figures were involved in a conspiracy. Through its support for 'Awn, this regime is currently complementing Israel's role in tearing Lebanon apart and undermining all efforts being made to find a solution to the Lebanese crisis.

Responding to another question, the minister said: We assess 'Awn on the grounds of his policies and actions, his connections with the Zionist enemy, and also his behavior, which was behind the initiation of the latest round of violence in Lebanon and the ensuing devastation and calamities.

Answering another question on the agreement signed between Amal and Hizballah, the information minister said: The Amal-Hizballah agreement will have a positive effect on the confrontation against the Israeli occupation and in forging the future of a unified Lebanon—land and people. Everyone knows that Hizballah, as well as the nationalist and Islamic forces, are the ones that are resisting the Israeli occupation. Everyone also remembers that these forces are the ones that carried out numerous operations against the occupation forces and their agents. Moreover, everyone recalls that neither 'Awn nor the Ja'ja' militias carried out these operations.

Muhammad Salman said that the nationalist and Islamic forces have their effective presence on the ground. He added that this has been highlighted by the foiling of the 17 May agreement and by the resistance the Israeli enemy has encountered. He added: If there are any parties which portray the Lebanese conflict as one involving 'Awn on one hand and Syria on the other in an attempt to obscure the role of the nationalist and Islamic forces, which represent the majority of the Lebanese people, this attempt, which will deceive nobody, is doomed to fail.

PLO's Al-Hasan Sees Important Syrian Role

JN1009185089 Damascus Television Service in Arabic 1730 GMT 10 sep 89

[Text] In an interview with Kuwait AL-ANBA', Khalid al-Hasan, Fatah Central Committee member, has stated that Syria constitutes a strategic, economic, and political buttress for Lebanon, Jordan, and Palestine.

Al-Hasan added: Whether we like it or not, Syria occupies a prominent geographic position among the Arab countries in addition to its psychological position throughout history. If the desert separates us from Egypt, the geographic connection between Palestine and Syria is direct.

In his interview with the Kuwaiti paper, Khalid al-Hasan explained that the Sykes-Picot Agreement created three states in the region—Jordan, Lebanon, and Palestine. He also said and that none of them have the formative elements [muqawimat] of a state—in the comprehensive meaning of those elements—whether they are united or remain separate. He said: These states can never live a stable life unless they become a part of Syria.

AL-THAWRAH Supports Resolutions on Lebanon

JN0909102889 Damascus SANA in Arabic 0820 GMT 9 Sep 89

[Text] Damascus, 9 Sep (SANA)—In today's commentary, the newspaper AL-THAWRAH writes about the resolutions of the nonaligned states concerning the Arab region—resolutions condemning the Israeli terrorist practices against our kinfolk in the Golan, the occupied Arab territories, and southern Lebanon.

AL-THAWRAH points out that the international community—of which the Nonaligned Movement states constitute a considerable part—is aware of the causes of the conflict in the region. The international community views the total Israeli withdrawal from the Arab territories and the realization of the Palestinian Arab people's legitimate rights as necessary preludes to the securing of a permanent, comprehensive, and just peace.

AL-THAWRAH says: The nonaligned states' resolution on the Lebanese crisis clearly calls for an Israeli withdrawal from the occupied territories, solidarity with the Lebanese people, a cease-fire, and for efforts to remove all obstacles to the Arab solution approved by the Casablanca Arab summit. The paper notes that this is in agreement with Syria's position and role.

The paper explains that Syria views the Casablanca summit resolutions as the key to saving Lebanon from the Israeli scheme. These resolutions, which are consistent with Syria's principles, are based on ending the Israeli occupation of southern Lebanon and achieving political reforms to secure justice for all Lebanese.

AL-THAWRAH concludes by saying Lebanon cannot remain an arena for Israel's conspiracies against the Arab nation. Lebanon will never belong to Israel under any circumstances. It always will be Arab in identity and affiliation, and it will remain in control of its pan-Arab role in the Arab nation's battle against the Zionist enemy.

Radio Marks Anniversary of Palestinian Uprising

JN0809155889 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 8 Sep 89

[Station commentary]

[Text] Gentlemen: Today, 8 September, the sweeping and popular intifadah [uprising] in the occupied homeland begins its 22d month, determined to achieve all of its objectives and terminate the occupation of all Arab territories. Through its militant march, its rejection of all liquidatory and capitulatory plans, and its accentuation

of the Palestinian Arab people's right to self-determination, the intifadah is determined to secure the rights of Palestinian Arabs and establish a national state for them.

With the intifadah entering its 22d month, the ninth Nonaligned summit concluded its meetings and deliberations in Belgrade, issuing resolutions on all of the topics listed on its agenda. The delegation leaders affirmed their condemnation of Israel's expansionist and aggressive policy and called for a just and durable solution to the Middle East conflict—a solution based on the withdrawal of Zionist troops from the occupied Arab territories and the realization of the Palestinian Arab people's rights, including their right to self-determination and the establishment of an independent Palestinian state on their national soil.

Syria, the cradle of Arabism, history, and struggle, had an effective, great, and influential role in the meetings and deliberations of the ninth Nonaligned summit. In appreciation of this role, which derives its strength from the prominent standing of Syria under the leadership of His Excellency President Hafiz al-Asad, and in recognition of Syria's effectiveness on regional and international levels, Syria, represented by Vice President 'Abd-al-Halim Khaddam, head of the Syrian delegation to the Nonaligned summit, chaired the summit's general morning session yesterday amid the welcome of the participating delegations, which supported Syria's principled and firm policies in relation to all Arab and international issues.

There is no doubt that the importance attached to Syria and its pioneering pan-Arab stands by the world's media organs and political quarters is first and foremost engendered by the role being played by Syria on the Arab, regional, and international levels. Syria, which holds the key to the situation in the region, is a militant and revolutionary Arab base. This is recognized by foes and friends alike. Had it not been for Syria and its pioneering pan-Arab stands on Arab issues, particularly its stands on the Lebanese crisis and the Palestine question, the Zionist conspiracy would have assumed larger proportions and achieved its objectives of fragmenting Lebanon, tearing it apart, and dividing it into vengeful, racist, and sectarian cantons attached to the Zionist entity. Moreover, were it not for Syria, for its great steadfastness and immense sacrifices, the Zionist enemy, many years ago, would have achieved its objectives of liquidating the Palestine question and obliterating Arab rights by concluding capitulatory deals—deals that would have left Arab lands wide open for the implementation of the aggressive and expansionist Zionist scheme which is designed to secure Zionist control and hegemony over Arab resources and the Arab will.

Syria, under the leadership of His Excellency President Hafiz al-Asad, has safeguarded Arab rights, unleashing all of its resources to support the battle of Arab destiny and prevent the replacement of the Arab-Zionist conflict with fabricated, marginal, and secondary conflicts that could have posed threats to the Arab existence and future.

Through its agents and hirelings, the Zionist enemy found the Lebanese arena to be a vehicle for infiltrating the Arab body. Since the beginning of the infighting in Lebanon, Syria has been aware of the devastation and destruction that might result from this infighting. It also has been aware of the calamities and dangerous consequences of Israel's support for a Zionized isolationist party—the consequences that might negatively affect the Arab-Zionist conflict and the Lebanese people. Syria, which has been aware of the seriousness of this conspiracy, immediately hastened to save Lebanon. It has continued to work to achieve this purpose and welcomed every sincere Arab endeavor to resolve the Lebanese crisis on the basis of foundations and components that would preserve Lebanon's unity and Arabism and end the Israeli presence there—a presence which has been responsible for the devastation, destruction, and infighting that plagues Lebanon.

If one of the objectives of intensifying the conspiracy in Lebanon is to obscure the victories, accomplishments, and successes scored by the intifadah, the parties involved in this conspiracy will not succeed in winning this battle. Nor will they succeed in achieving this malicious objective of theirs, since the intifadah—which is entering its 22d month—looks firmer and stronger and possesses more willpower and more effective weapons. This has been confirmed by the ongoing developments and events in the occupied Arab territories, extending from the Golan to the Galilee, to southern Lebanon, and to the West Bank and Gaza Strip where the intifadah is escalating and the resistance is being entrenched. This also has been confirmed by the Zionized 'Awn clique's failure to achieve Zionist objectives through its launching of a war of destruction, devastation, and division in the Lebanese arena. The failure of this clique has also been demonstrated by the Lebanese Arab people's determination, through their noble and militant patriotic forces, to thwart the Zionized isolationist scheme, while adhering to Lebanon's unity, Arabism, and its pan-Arab role within the framework of the battle against the Zionist enemy.

Afghanistan

U.S. Approach To Former Afghan King Reported

BK0909155689 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 9 Sep 89

[Text] A UNITED NEWS OF INDIA report says the United States has approached former Afghan King Zaher Shah for his possible help in finding a political solution to the Afghan problem. The agency, quoting official sources in Washington, said a diplomat in the U.S. Embassy in Italy held discussions with the 74-year old king in Rome yesterday. The American move comes in the wake of the reported split among the Peshawar-based rebel groups.

Vorontsov Warns Against U.S. Afghan Involvement

BK0809125889 London BBC World Service in English 1200 GMT 8 Sep 89

[From the "Newsreel" program]

[Text] The Soviet ambassador in Kabul, Mr Vorontsov, has said that the Soviet-American war is threatening to develop by proxy in Afghanistan. In a BBC interview, Mr Vorontsov said growing American involvement in the military operations of the Afghan guerrillas could sour the recent improvement in relations between Moscow and Washington. He said the Soviet Union would not tolerate challenges so close to its border. Mr Vorontsov was speaking to our correspondent in Kabul, Lyce Doucet:

[Begin Doucet recording] A few months ago, Mr Vorontsov accused Washington of taking direct charge of the guerrillas' military operations. Now, he said, American involvement has deepened to the point where Soviet-American war was threatening to develop by proxy, with the United States organizing and supplying the mujahidin in the war against the Soviet-backed government. Mr Vorontsov spoke of the dangerous chain of events starting with the recent dismissal of the CIA official responsible for overseeing the supply of guns and money to the guerrillas, and reports that most weapons would now be supplied directly to mujahidin commanders instead of the guerrilla parties or their interim government. Mr Vorontsov claimed he had information the Americans would establish an air base in the Pakistani city of Quetta near the Afghan border, and that they were training Afghan pilots at an airfield in the southern city of Karachi. He warned that what he saw—the growing American involvement close to the Soviet border—could spoil recent improvements in Soviet-American relations and could affect other areas, including disarmament and Moscow's agreement not to create difficulties to the United States in other regions which it does not [words indistinct].

In the past, American officials have denied specific charges of direct involvement in the guerrillas' operations, but whether or not Mr Vorontsov's loose comments are overstated, American officials have been emphasizing their commitment to continuing military support. But, it is still unclear how far they are prepared to go in their drive to assist guerrillas to topple the Afghan government which receives substantial military assistance from Moscow. [end recording]

Najibullah Receives Outgoing Soviet Envoy

LD0909163289 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1530 GMT 9 Sep 89

[Text] This morning at Golkhana Palace, the presidency headquarters, Esteemed Najibullah received Yu. Vorontsov, USSR ambassador and extraordinary representative in Kabul—whose term of office in the Republic of Afghanistan has ended—for a farewell meeting.

BAKHTAR reported that the president of the Republic of Afghanistan recalled with appreciation the outstanding services accomplished in our country during Yu. Vorontsov's term of office. The president said he regarded his endeavors for further consolidation of friendly relations between the Republic of Afghanistan and Soviet Union as valuable.

The Afghan president said that the Soviet assistance and cooperation in various fields rendered to Afghanistan during this difficult period in history ware particularly important. He noted that the people of Afghanistan appreciate this cooperation.

Yu. Vorontsov then expressed appreciation for the attention and facilities provided by the Republic of Afghanistan, and for the accomplishment of duties alloted to him. He emphasized the continuation and broadening of cooperation between the two countries, which is for the interest of peace in the region and in the world.

Mujahidin Deny Kabul Claim of Convoy Arrival

Claim Convoy Diverted

BK0809113589 Hong Kong AFP in English 1127 GMT 8 Sep 89

[Text] Quetta, Pakistan, Sept 8 (AFP)—Afghan rebels Friday denied a claim by the Kabul regime that a massive convoy of more than 1,000 tanks and trucks had arrived in the southeastern city of Qandahar from the Soviet Union.

Resistance sources here said that following guerrilla attacks in which over 100 vehicles were destroyed, the 30-kilometer (18-mile) convoy had been diverted from Grishk, 140 kilometers (88 miles) west of Qandahar, to Lashkar Gah, 35 kilometers (20 miles) south of Grishk.

The mujahidin said they believed the Afghan authorities were now planning to airlift supplies from Lashkar Gah,

capital of Helmand Province, to Qandahar, after heavily bombing the guerrillas' positions around Qandahar airport.

"They don't want to take the risk of losing other vehicles on the road," a rebel commander said.

(General Abdul Haq Ulumi, secretary of the Supreme Council for Defence of Afghanistan, said in Kabul Thursday that the convoy had started arriving in Qandahar after a 700-kilometer (435-mile) journey from the Soviet border.

(Officials in Kabul have confirmed that the convoy had been attacked "two to three times," but denied the rebels' claim that more than 100 vehicles had been destroyed.)

Battle To Stop Convoy Detailed

BK1009001089 Hong Kong AFP in English 1849 GMT 9 Sep 89

[Text] Kabul, Sept 9 (AFP)—Fighting is underway on the western approaches to the southern Afghan city of Qandahar as mujahidin guerrillas try to stop a massive resupply convoy from the Soviet Union reaching the city, a senior government minister said Saturday.

"Naturally (there is fighting)," Deputy Prime Minister Mahmud Barialay told journalists at a press conference here, adding that "they (the mujahidin) know that it (the convoy) could change the balance of power in Qandahar."

High level government officials have said the convoy, which stretches some 30 kilometres (18 miles) from end to end and is composed of some 1,300 vehicles including military escort, was carrying "enough weapons to resupply Qandahar for more than six months, as well as food and fuel."

It left the Soviet border town of Torgundi some two weeks ago for the 700 kilometre (437 mile) journey across western and southern Afghanistan much of it through mujahidin held territory.

Mujahidin sources in Peshawar said last week their forces had knocked out at least 100 vehicles, including tanks, on the southern leg of the journey, and that the convoy had bogged down.

Mr. Barialay, who is in charge of transport and logistics in Kabul, confirmed the convoy was "proceeding" cautiously and added that with the amount of supplies at stake the government was taking no chances.

"Before we try to bring the convoy in, first we have to eliminate the opposition," he said, confirming reports that the government had sent troops out from Qandahar to clear the approach route.

Although confirming that attacks had taken place, he hotly denied as "false propaganda from the West" the mujahidin damage figures, saying only "two or three vehicles" had been destroyed, and those due to mechanical problems.

Sources close to the government said 10 vehicles were destroyed in the attacks.

Mr. Barialay appeared to confirm that resistance was becoming heavier the nearer the convoy came to the city, saying it would probably be "two or three days" before it reached Qandahar, despite government spokesmen saying Wednesday it was only some 80 kilometres (50 miles) away.

Mujahidin Capture 12 Security Posts Near Shindand

BK0809153289 Islamabad Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 8 Sep 89

[Text] According to reports from Afghanistan, the mujahidin are continuing their operations and achieving successes against the Kabul regime. The mujahidin are said to have captured 12 security posts south of Shindand. A total of 86 Kabul regime soldiers were reportedly killed and a large number of them wounded in the fighting.

According to another report, three rockets landed at the Shindand Airport, destroying a part of the terminal.

Meanwhile, the mujahidin sources have rejected the claims that the Kabul regime forces have foiled the attacks on the eastern Khowst garrison. The sources say the battle is on to capture this town. The mujahidin intensified their operations last night and captured more areas.

Mujahidin Claim Capture of Shindand 9 Sep

Town 'Strategically Important'

BK0909103689 Hong Kong AFP in English 1021 GMT 9 Sep 89

[Text] Quetta, Pakistan, Sept 9 (AFP)—The Afghan resistance claimed here Saturday that mujahidin guerrillas have captured the strategically important town of Shindand and were threatening its massive military air base.

Guerrillas from six of the seven factions of the Pakistani-based alliance captured Shindand on Friday after days of heavy fighting with the Afghan government forces defending the town, resistance sources. [as received]

They were now poised to attack the important air base—the largest in Afghanistan in terms of size—15 kilometres to the north, the sources said in this western Pakistan city close to the Afghan border.

"All security posts around the city have been eliminated," a resistance leader was quoted as saying in a radio message to mujahidin headquarters here.

"Afghan troops fled the city," one resistance source said.

The mujahidin had taken over government buildings, administration offices and office of the secret police as

well as education and communication centres in Shindand, located 150 kilometres east of the Iranian border and 700 kms west of Kabul. The town has a population of about 15,000 people.

The mujahidin had briefly taken Shindand in 1978 shortly after the Communists came to power in Kabul and before Soviet troops were sent into Afghanistan in 1979. Shindand airport became the main air base for the Soviet forces until they left Afghanistan in February this year.

The guerrillas' entry into the city centre would enable them to hit the base directly, the sources said. The resistance sources said they feared heavy bombing of the city to flush out guerrillas poised to attack the air base considered strategically important for government forces defending nearby Qandahar and Herat provinces.

Elsewhere in Afghanistan the mujahidin on Friday captured 10 government posts northwest of Khowst, close to Pakistan in eastern Paktia Province, the pro-resistance AFGHAN ISLAMIC PRESS (AIP) reported. The guerrillas captured seven tanks and 25 soldiers, and lost nine men during the fighting, the Pakistan-based news agency said.

Six mujahidin were also killed near Khowst when Afghan troops fired a surface-to-surface Scud missile at their positions. The agency said the mujahidin were now in the Sagai area, six kilometers northwest of the town.

The rebels already hold several key positions southwest of Khowsit said, adding that the Afghan air force was bombing the mujahidin positions Saturday.

The Moslem guerrillas, fighting to topple the Soviet-backed regime of President Najibullah, launched an offensive against Khowst on August 24.

Islamabad Confirms Capture of Town

BK0909131689 Islamabad Domestic Service in English 1300 GMT 9 Sep 89

[Text] In Afghanistan, mujahidin have captured the strategically important town of Shindand and are now threatening its massive military air base. According to mujahidin commanders, the town, about 90 miles east of the Iranian border, was captured yesterday after days of heavy fighting with the Kabul regime troops defending it. All security posts around the city have been eliminated and the Kabul regime troops fled Shindand, which has a population of 15,000 people.

The mujahidin have taken over government buildings and the secret police office, as well as communication centers in the town. Mujahidin sources say the capture of Shindand will enable them to hit directly the largest air base in Afghanistan which is considered important for Kabul regime troops defending nearby Qandahar and Herat provinces.

Elsewhere, the mujahidin captured 10 Kabul regime posts northwest of Khowst in the Paktia Province yesterday.

Government Denies Loss of Shindand

BK1109000889 Hong Kong AFP in English 1725 GMT 10 Sep 89

[Text] Kabul, Sept 10 (AFP)—The Afghan government flatly denied Sunday that Shindand, a strategic town in western Afghanistan, had been captured by mujahidin guerrillas.

"There is no opposition control (in Shindand) and it is totally under government control," government spokesman Mohammad Nabi Amani said here.

(But resistance sources in Pakistan reiterated Sunday that the mujahidin were in control of Shindand, which has a population of some 15,000 and is located near a vital government air base.

(The mujahidin claimed to have captured Shindand on Friday and a resistance source told AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE in Islamabad on Sunday that some 500 armed guerrillas were "freely moving about the city and its bazaars.")

Mr. Amani did confirm Sunday that mujahidin fighters had attacked a small town near Shindand Air Base. But he said the attackers were beaten back by artillery and air strikes before they could gain a foothold.

"There was an attack on Char Mahal, five kilometers (three miles) southwest of Shindand on Friday, but our artillery was very active and the Air Force bombed their positions," the government spokesman said. Mr. Amani said the mujahidin had lost 120 dead in the assualt, but had no reports on government casualties.

(Resistance sources in Pakistan said Sunday that government troops had vacated some positions around the massive air base some 15 kilometers (nine miles) to the north of Shindand.

(They said Shindand fell to the mujahidin Friday after a coordinated offensive last week in which government troops suffered heavy losses.

(A spokesman for the Jamiat-e Eslami resistance group told AFP in Islamabad that Kabul had lost 160 soldiers in the fighting. The spokesman said mujahidin casualties were also heavy but that he could not give an exact figure.

(The assault was spearheaded by Jamiat Commander Ismail Khan and Abdul Aziz of the National Islamic Front of Afghanistan, he said.

(The mujahidin captured Shindand, located 150 kilometres (90 miles) east of the Iranian border and 700 kms (435 miles) west of Kabul, after overrunning a belt of more than a dozen government positions, the Jamiat spokesman said.

(The mujahidin were meeting no resistance in the town and there had been no retaliatory strikes by government troops although they were expected.)

Mujahidin control of Shindand would threaten the huge air base which is considered strategically important to government forces defending nearby Qandahar and Herat Provinces. Shindand airport was the main Soviet air base until Moscow withdrew its forces from Afghanistan in February this year.

The government gives rare reports of fighting in western Afghanistan, but Mr. Amani said Sunday a "search" operation in Adraskan District had uncovered large amounts of ammunition and resulted in the arrests of six people.

The government Sunday also reported continued fighting around the eastern cities of Khowst and Jalalabad, and updated the number of casualties in rocket attacks on Kabul on Saturday to seven killed and eight injured. No rockets were reported to have fallen on Kabul on Sunday.

(Meanwhile, resistance sources in Pakistan said Sunday that a massive convoy carrying arms, ammunition and fuel for government troops in the besieged city of Qandahar has been split up by continuing mujahidin attacks.

(The convoy of more than 1,000 tanks, trucks and military vehicles, which crossed into Afghanistan from the Soviet Union at Torghundi on August 23, was being held up in several places by mujahidin and was finding it difficult to reach Afghanistan's second-largest city, they said.

(The sources said 80 vehicles which reached Maiwand, 80 kms (50 miles) west of Qandahar, on Friday had been ambushed by the rebels at Toor Manda after covering only 10 kms (six miles) from Maiwand to Qandahar.

(The sources said Qandahar's military governor, who had gone to Maiwand to assess the situation, had to be evacuated by helicopter. Fourteen soldiers had defected to the mujahidin along with a truckload of ammunition and an oil tanker, they said.

(In another development, the Afghan resistance Information Department in Islamabad said Sunday that mujahidin guerrillas had blown up a pipeline supplying petroleum to northern Afghanistan from the Soviet Union.

(Citing a wireless message, it said that in a raid Wednesday, guerrillas overpowered a security guard and planted dynamite on the pipeline at Shor Tepe District in northern Balkh Province near the Soviet border.

("An estimated 32,000 liters of oil had spilled from the broken pipeline before it was repaired by the Communist authorities the following day," the Information Department of the interim rebel government based in Pakistan said.)

Three 'U.S.-Made' Missiles Hit Kabul; 6 Killed

LD0909150889 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1430 GMT 9 Sep 89

[Text] The Pakistani-backed criminal extremists today perpetrated another shocking and unforgiveable crime against our Muslim and religious people by firing three U.S.-made surface-to-surface missiles at the residential regions of Kabul city.

BAKHTAR's military section reported that as a result of this criminal action against our peace-loving people in accordance with the state terrorism plans of the United States and pakistan, six of our compatriots, including women and children, were martyred and eight people were injured.

The injured were quickly taken to the hospital [passage indistinct]. These missiles also inflicted material losses on our people.

Mujahidin Attack Khowst; Karwal Tours Paktia

LD0909095289 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0418 GMT 9 Sep 89

[Text] Kabul, Sep 7, BAKHTAR—As a result of the mopping up operations of the Armed Forces carried out in some areas of the Khowst Grand District today 5 cases of anti-personnel mines, 20 cases of machineguns bullets, 25 rocket launchers and several other arms and ammunition were seized, an authorised military source reported to BAKHTAR.

The joint forces of the enemy in the composition of which armed extremists, Pakistani military men and Saudi Wahabis were included, attacked residential areas and security posts located at the eastern side of the Khowst Grand district. One serviceman was killed and another wounded.

The contingents and detachments of the Khowst Garrison heavily pounded the enemies and killed 28, wounded 46 others. Two extremists ringleaders and a number of Pakistani men and Saudi Wahabis are also among those killed.

A strategic stronghold and a large quantity of armaments of the enemy fell at the hand of the forces around Jalalabad City. The enemy supported by the 11th Pakistani Corps attacked Sorkh Rud and Behsud areas, Nangarhar Province. The Armed Forces retaliated and killed 16 and wounded 31 enemies.

A quantity of arms and ammunition of the enemy was seized by the detachments of the Armed Forces in the Qandahar and Zabol Provinces during the mentioned period.

A correspondent reported from the Khowst Grand District that Mir Saheb Karwal, member of the Supreme Defence Council of the country participated in the session of the council for the defence of Khowst and hailed bravery shown by the Khowst Garrison in the

defence of the district against the destructive attacks of the armed extremists, Pakistani militia and Saudi Wahabis.

During the session a member of the Khowst military detachment on behalf of his friends assured that they will foil and frustrate all plots of the enemy.

Later, Karwal attended extensive jirgah (assembly) of the chieftains and representatives of ten famous tribes residing in Gardeyz, centre of Paktia Province and appreciated the bravery and high morale of the said tribes.

Reciprocally, some elders of the tribes pledged that they will do their best along with the Armed Forces to deter attacks of the enemy in their paternal home.

Karwal visited the Khowst hospital and distributed orders of the RA [Republic of Afghanistan] to a number of prominent doctors and personnel of the hospital.

At the end of his visit to Khowst, Karwal met with families of the Khowst martyrs, crippled ones and those affected in the attacks of the enemy there.

BAKHTAR Details Military Situation, Casualties

9 Sep Situation Report

LD1009095889 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0454 GMT 10 Sep 89

[Text] Kabul, Sep. 9, BAKHTAR—The extremists along with the Pakistani militarists and Saudi Wahabis launched yesterday their attacks on the detachments of the Armed Forces based in the front line of the war in Khowst Grand District as a result of which the Armed Forces stationed in Khowst resorted to counter attacks killing one hundred seventy two extremists and wounding thirteen others, reports our military correspondent from Khowst.

The report adds that three ring-leaders and a number of Pakistani militarists are among those killed. A number of the arms and munitions of the enemy were destroyed during the said operations as well.

Four personnel of the Armed Forces were martyred and eleven others got injuries in Khowst battle, the report adds.

According to another report the Armed Forces based in Nangarhar Province carried out mopping up operations in Sorkh Rud District, Nangarhar Province, inflicting heavy casualties upon the extremists. The report says that twenty extremists were killed and fourteen others injured, a huge amount of arms and ammunition of the enemy were also destroyed in the operations.

Based on another report five extremists were crushed as a result of the mopping up operations carried out by the detachments of the Armed Forces in Qandahar Province yesterday. Two personnel of the Armed Forces were killed in the said operations. The Armed Forces seized a large quantity of the enemy's arms as well.

According to another report eight persons attached to the enemy were killed and a number of others wounded in Herat Province as a result of the counter attacks of the Armed Forces launched there yesterday.

10 Sep Situation Report

LD1109063189 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0445 GMT 11 Sep 89

[Text] Kabul, Sept. 10, BAKHTAR—Some contingents and detachments of the Armed Forces stationed in the Khowst grand district is advancing along the defence lines already captured from the enemy. The Armed Forces through their attacks on the strongholds of the enemy on the northern direction of the Tanay [name as received] District have advanced several kilometers ahead, an authorised military source said.

As a result of the operations 45 enemy were killed, including 4 extremists ringleaders, and 67 others wounded. A large quantity of arms and ammunition of the enemy was destroyed. Four servicemen were wounded and another one killed.

The Armed Forces in their moppping up operations carried out in Nangarhar Province brought heavy blows on the enemy in the Samarkhail and Shaik Misri [names as received] directions. Twenty-two enemies were killed and 44 others wounded.

The Armed Forces in Kalat and Adraskan, Herat Province killed 4 enemy and wounded 21 others. Seventy anti-vehicle mines, 10 cases of bullets, and 70 shells of the recoilless gun were seized.

A group of extremists who were about to disturb peaceful life of the residents of the Shindand District, Herat Province were defeated. The enemy lost 20 men during clashes with the Armed Forces.

Kabul Warplanes Reportedly Bomb Own Soldiers

BK1109023889 Islamabad Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT 11 Sep 89

[Text] Reports from Afghanistan say there is continuous fighting around the eastern cities of Khowst and Jalalabad. Because of continuous attacks by the mujahidin, a large convoy carrying arms, ammunition, and fuel to Kabul regime soldiers in the besieged city of Qandahar was blocked. Mujahidin blew up a pipeline carrying petroleum from the Soviet Union to northern Afghanistan. The official news agency of Afghanistan's interim government has reported that warplanes of the Kabul regime inadvertently bombed their own soldiers in (Khushalabad) Village in Daulatabad District of Balkh Province. This village is strategically very important.

India

Agreement on Troop Pullout Expected 'Soon'

BK1109032089 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 11 Sep 89

[Text] Agency reports emanating from Colombo say that final agreement between India and Sri Lanka on the implementation of the Indo-Sri Lanka agreement, including the withdrawal of the peacekeeping force [PKF], is expected to be reached soon. Reports say India has also agreed to announce the unconditional cease-fire and effect the withdrawal of the PKF once the agreement between the two countries is finalized.

It may be recalled, India had offered to complete the withdrawal of peacekeeping force by February and had suggested a 15-day cease-fire that could continue open-ended, if the LTTE also complied with it.

Former Army Chief Reiterates Bofors Statement

BK0809160589 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 8 Sep 89

[Text] The former Army chief, General K. Sunderji, has reiterated his view that the cancellation of the Bofors contract [to purchase 155-mm fieldguns] was a risk, but he had accepted it as it was one way to make the Bofors come out with identities of the recipients of the alleged pay-offs. General Sunderji said this to PTI [PRESS TRUST OF INDIA] at his residence in Wellington in Tamil Nadu while reacting to the then defense secretary, Mr S.K. Bhatnagar's, statement following the former army chief's interview to an English fortnightly news magazine.

General Sunderji said he still holds the same view. Asked about Mr Bhatnagar's comment that General Sunderji's views expressed in his June 1987 letter were only cursory and had not dealt with in a comprehensive manner the implications of the cancellation of the Bofors contract, the former Army chief said my view is the same whether it was made out in 6 pages or 600 pages, as he put it.

Asked about the Defense Ministry's charge that he had committed an impropriety by disclosing the contents of a top secret document relating to national security, General Sunderji said he had no comments to make on this.

8 'Hard-Core Terrorists' Killed in Punjab

BK0809130889 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1230 GMT 8 Sep 89

[Text] In Punjab, eight hard-core terrorists were killed in an encounter with the security forces in Ferozepur District this afternoon. According to an official spokesman, the encounter followed a raid by the security forces on the terrorist hideout near village Sharinwala in Guru Har Sarai area. The spokesman said one of the killed has been identified as the dreaded terrorist Sukhbinder Singh who was carrying a reward of 40,000 rupees on his head.

Deaths, Injuries in Assam Tribal Violence

7 Killed, 22 Injured

BK0909070089 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0630 GMT 9 Sep 89

[Text] In Assam, a group of Bodo [tribe] miscreants last night killed 7 persons and injured 22 others in Bokhajhuli village under Tamulpur police station of Nalbari District. Official sources in Guwahati said the miscreants fled the scene before police could reach. The injured have been admitted to hospital. Senior police officials have reached the village and a massive manhunt is on to apprehend the culprits. Our Guwahati correspondent reports that the fresh incidence of violence has further aggravated the tense situation in Tamulpur area as it was limping back to normalcy after a series of group clashes last week.

In another incident in Jamuguri village under Udalguri subdivision, Boro miscreants detonated a powerful bomb, injuring two policemen seriously.

Toll Rises to 28 Dead

BK1009000189 Hong Kong AFP in English 1913 GMT 9 Sep 89

[Text] New Delhi, Sept 9 (AFP)—Tribal militants have killed 28 people and injured 28 in India's northeastern Assam State, the PRESS TRUST OF INDIA (PTI) reported Saturday. The militants, armed with guns and daggers attacked Bokajali village in Assam's Nalbari District late Friday, officials quoted by PTI said, adding that none of the victims, who included 16 women, were tribespeople. Some 14 of the injured were moved to a hospital in Guwahati, the officials said, without specifying their condition.

Earlier PTI had said 12 people were killed and 27 injured, with at least 10 in critical condition. The militants from the All Bodo Students' Union (ABSU) also damaged a number of houses before running off, PTI said. Bodo militants have been demanding the division of the oil-rich state into two, with the half north of the Brahmaputra River reserved for tribespeople.

The agitation, which turned violent in February, was sparked off in the belief that tribespeople were being discriminated against by the Assam state government in education and employment. The All Bodo Students Union, which has spearheaded the agitation, agreed during talks in New Delhi on August 28 to continue negotiating for a peaceful settlement.

In return, the Assam government agreed to lift special powers given to police and security forces in tribal-majority areas, where more than 150 people have died in violence linked to the agitation.

Delhi Confirms 28 Killed

BK1009032089 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 10 Sep 89

[Text] Agencies quoting official sources in Guwahati say that at least 28 people, including 16 women, were killed when Bodo [tribal] extremists attacked Barkhajuli village under Tamulpur police station in Nalbari District on Friday [8 September] evening. Twenty-eight others were injured in the attack. Earlier reports had said 12 persons were killed in the incident.

Meanwhile, the law and order situation in the area continues to be tense but under control. Official sources in Guwahati say that no untoward incident has been reported during the last 24 hours. District authorities have sent additional forces to the affected areas and patrolling has been intensified. Army has been kept in readiness to assist the civil administration to help in maintaining law and order when required.

3 Killed in 10 Sep Violence

BK1109075089 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0730 GMT 11 Sep 89

[Text] In Assam, three persons were killed when suspected members of the United Liberation Front of Assam ambushed the car of the district superintendent of police [SP], Dibrugarh, at Dikam, 16 km from Dibrugarh town last night. The victims were the wife of the SP, driver of the vehicle and the personal security officer. Extremists, suspecting that the superintendent of police was traveling in the car, fired indiscriminately with automatic weapons. No one has been arrested so far. Intensive police investigations are on.

Iran

Death of UK Hostage in Beirut Questioned

LD0809194689 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 8 Sep 89

[Text] According to English news sources, the wife of one of the English hostages in Lebanon has announced that she has been informed about the death of that hostage.

According to the sources, she added that a person who seemed to be a respectable businessman told her about the death of her husband and she believed that the news was true.

Since the abduction of the Englishman named Jack Mann, who lived in Lebanon for more than 50 years, there have been many reports published about his bad health. Mann has been suffering from wounds he received during the war and previously suffered a heart attack.

The British Embassy in Beirut announced that it had no information on his death.

Reportage on UK's Release of Iranian Prisoner

Tehran Daily on Exchange

NC0909105489 Paris AFP in English 1042 GMT 9 Sep 89

[Text] Tehran, Sept 9 (AFP)—Britain is set to free Iranian prisoner Kurosh Fuladi, convicted of a 1980 bombing in London, a move which could lead to the release of a Briton from Iran, the TEHRAN TIMES newspaper reported Saturday.

Mr. Fuladi was expected to be released Sunday after which he would fly home to Tehran, the English-language daily reported, citing unnamed sources close to the British Government.

(In London, the Home Office confirmed that he would be released soon, but refused to confirm or deny it would be Sunday.)

Tehran and London have held talks on a possible exchange between Mr. Fuladi and British businessman Roger Cooper, who has been in prison here since 1986 on charges of spying, the Times reported.

Mr. Fuladi was arrested in 1980 and jailed in November 1982 for 10 years after an explosion in his car killed two of his friends. Mr. Fuladi was also hurt in the blast.

Iran alleges that he was subjected to brutal treatment in jail, including sexual abuse.

Hajieh Daneh-Anar Fuladi, the Iranian's mother, told a Teheran newspaper on March 1 that she was opposed to an exchange. "I will not trade off my son with Cooper who is a spy," she said.

Britain and Iran broke off diplomatic relations in March amid the Satanic Verses controversy, following the late spiritual guide Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeyni's death sentence against the book's author Salman Rushdie.

More on Expected Release

LD0909193989 Tehran IRNA in English 1922 GMT 9 Sep 89

[Text] London, Sept. 9, IRNA—Kurosh Fuladi, an Iranian in British jail since 1980, is reportedly to be freed and returned home Sunday.

Fuladi, 29, was arrested and jailed by the British police on charges of involvement in an explosion in London which killed two people. He has been tortured by prison officials repeatedly.

Two years after his arrest, a court proceeding which took 52 days, sentenced him to ten years of imprisonment.

Officials at the Home Office and the Gartree prison where Fuladi is held, refuse to confirm the news of his imminent release which has been confirmed by informed sources and news circles close to the home office.

Fuladi will reportedly be taken to the airport here and flown back home on an Iran Air flight on Sunday evening.

Those who have managed to meet Kurosh despite obstructions by the relevant British officials, say he enjoys high morale and has maintained his revolutionary spirit.

His brother Dariush says he had told him of severe tortures by the prison officials when he met him a few years ago.

Speaking to Iran, he also regretted that Gartree prison officials had denied him and his mother a meeting with Kurosh despite all the difficulties they had in reaching London.

'Revolutionary' Released

LD1109024489 Tehran IRNA in English 0235 GMT 11 Sep 89

[Text] Tehran, Sept. 11, IRNA—Kurosh Fuladi, an innocent Iranian revolutionary who spent ten years of his life in a British jail, said Monday that Muslims as well as Irish republicans were under "horrible tortures" in British jails. He also urged human rights organisations to investigate the situation of Irish republicans and Palestinians being held in British prisons.

Fuladi, 29, was released from Gartree prison Sunday and arrived here early this morning. At Tehran airport, he was welcomed by two Foreign Ministry officials as well as his family and relatives.

Showing signs of torture on his body to an IRNA reporter, Fuladi said he had been arrested on unfounded charges by the British police in 1980 and subjected to various kinds of torture over the past ten years.

"The savage behaviour of the prison officials continued to the extent that other prisoners staged a hunger strike in my support," he said, adding that he had also become a victim of another plot recently to prolong his stay in the prison. "They placed narcotics in my cell in order to delay my release," he said.

He said he had also been fined for saying Friday prayers at the prison campus together with 60 other blacks who had turned to Islam in the prison.

He said the holding of the prayer badly angered the prison officials and as a result "I was severely beaten and they broke my hand and hurt my eye."

Fuladi was arrested in 1980 on charges of having hand in a car bomb blast in London which killed two Iranian counterrevolutionaries. He was tried in a court two years after arrest in a proceeding which lasted 52 days. He went to Britain in 1979 to continue his studies.

Karrubi Condemns Congressmen's 'Overthrow' Request

LD1009103589 Tehran IRNA in English 1020 GMT 10 Sep 89

[Text] Tehran, Sept. 10, IRNA—Majlis Speaker Hojjat ol-Eslam Mahdi Karrubi Sunday condemned a request by U.S. congressmen to overthrow the Islamic Republic system and said such false analyses was the result of Washington's "failure to realise the depth and dignity of the Islamic revolution."

"The U.S. leaders should take the wish of overthrowing the Islamic Republic to the grave," he remarked.

186 U.S. congressmen, in a letter to the secretary of state James Baker have requested the overthrow of the Islamic Republic by ettending assistance to the outlawed Mujahidin-e Khalq Organisation (MKO).

Speaking in the open session of the Majlis, Karrubi described the move by the U.S. Congress as "stupid" and said the "principled and firm stands taken by the Islamic Republic officials have disappointed them and made them to take such passive stands."

"Such nonesense will never affect the determination of the heroic and devoted nation of Iran who have gone through long years of struggle and resistance," the speaker further noted.

Hojjat ol-Eslam Karrubi reiterated that the late imam's path, thought, and principles will continue to guide the Iranian officials and people.

Pointing to the impudence of the U.S. statesmen, he said on the one hand they condemn terrorism and on the other support individuals whose hands are stained with the blood of the Iranian people.

Deputies Criticize Congressmen

LD1009124589 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 10 Sep 89

[Text] Majlis deputies issued a statement today condemning the letter written by 186 U.S. Congressmen concerning the overthrow of the Islamic Republic. They called that treacherous action direct interference in Iran's internal affairs and held the signatories of that wretched letter responsible for the consequences of such action.

The statement refers to the numerous crimes committed by the United States in fanning the flames of the war imposed by Iraq, the U.S. support for counterrevolutionary minigroups whose hands are tainted with the blood of valued officials and youths, and the United States' widespread crimes including shooting down the Iranian airliner and those against the innocent Muslims of Palestine and Lebanon. Addressing the U.S. leaders in the statement, the Majlis deputies declared: You should and do know that our people will never forget your crimes; they will remember the relationship between the wolf and lamb to which our dear imam referred. With the passing away of the imam, the esteemed leade: [Khamene'i], with the president [Hashemi-Rafsanjani], and all our country's officials will continue along the imam's path.

The cry "Death to America" still resonates in our holy country. Your signed pieces of paper will not have the slightest effect on the firm resolve of the Muslim people of Iran.

Larijani on Peace Talks With Iraq, Foreign Ties

LD0909183589 Tehran IRNA in English 1825 GMT 9 Sep 89

[Text] Tabriz, East Azarbaijan Prov., Sept. 9, IRAN—"Direct talks between Iran and Iraq is not a surprising subject, since we believe that peace should be established between the two countries and this is far more important than direct talks between the two governments," said a Foreign Ministry official here today.

Mohammad Javad Larijani, advisor to the foreign minister, said Iraq is trying to postpone full implementation of the U.N. Resolution 598 by putting forward deceitful topics such as "comprehensive peace" and "direct talks" in order to achieve objectives for which it began the war against Iran eight years ago.

"We should not allow Iraq to be deviated from the direction of the talks by resorting to symbolic methods. In our opinion the way to peace is clear and the only problem is that Iraq has not been able to take a clear-cut decision in this regard," he said.

On future relations of the Islamic Republic with regional countries Larijani said "we would reach a general agreement in the region and its outcome will appear in not too far a future if countries like Iraq from inside the region and U.S. and Britain from outside it do not damage this process of understanding." According to this agreement in addition to normal and friendly relations with the regional countries, Iran would have wide-scale economic, industrial, and commercial cooperation with them, Larijani said.

On relations with the U.S., Larijani said Iran's expediencies outside its borders are based on three principles: preservation of its prestige in the Muslim world as the motherland of the Islamic community, consolidation of its defence power and finally development and progress of its territory. "Ties with the U.S. should be established within these framework," he said.

He termed Tehran-Moscow relations "positive and constructive" the reason of which he said is powerful grounds for mutual cooperation. "We are so sure of bilateral relations that we have planned industrial, commercial, energy and defence industry cooperation until the year 2000.

Larijani said regional countries should consider Tehran-Moscow firm relations "an effective element" for restoration of regional peace and security and not a new ground for the superpowers rivalry.

Referring to the future visit of Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev Larijani said such visits will take place in future in line with mutual relations. Preparations for the visit would be announced by the two countries' foreign ministries.

Editorial Criticizes Statement

LD1009115189 Tehran IRNA in English 1055 GMT 10 Sep 89

[Text] Tehran, Sept. 10, IRNA—An Iranian daily Sunday expressed surprise on a recent statement on Iran-Iraq peace talks by the foreign minister's advisor.

The editorial was referring to an interview of Mohammad Javad Larijani on Saturday stating "direct talks between Iran and Iraq is not a surprising subject because we believe that peace should be established between the two countries and this is far more important than direct talks between the two governments."

"It will be pure simplemindedness to believe that Iraq after having pressed for direct talks with Iran will not add another condition for the implementation of the U.N. resolution," ABRAR's editorial said.

"Iraq has proved, during the past year, that by impeding the peace netotiations and constantly setting conditions for implementation of the Resolution 598, [it] is after getting concessions from Iran and questioning the authenticity of the 1975 accord," it added.

"The latest condition of Iran [as received] to hold direct negotiations with Iran, is nothing but violating the resolution," the paper believed.

The editorial voiced the conviction that utterance of such statements by a Foreign Ministry official will certainly be interpreted as Iran's willingness to give concession to the Iraqi regime.

The daily also criticized few other officials for making contradictory remarks in connection with the country's ties with Saudi Arabia and the United States.

"We believe that establishing relations with other countries and reducing enmity does not mean expansion of ties with countries which continue their hostilities towards the Islamic Republic of Iran."

"Iran's policy should be such that its independent powerful position as well as its positive presence in international arena must be preserved while relations with domination seeking or lackey governments should always be rejected."

"To establish ties with certain countries with whom Iran has major problems, the Islamic Republic has no need to act from a weak position," it concluded.

Hashemi-Rafsanjani Meets Visiting Hizballah Group

LD1009113289 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 10 Sep 89

[Text] Sayyid Husayn Musawi, Abu-Hisham, Sayyid Ibrahim Amin, and Haj Husayn Khalil, who travelled to

Tehran heading a delegation representing the revolutionary Lebanese Hizballah movement, this morning met President Mr Hashemi-Rafsanjani and congratulated him on his appointment as president of Islamic Republic of Iran.

During that meeting, the delegation from the Lebanese Hizballah presented our country's president with a report about the Lebanese and regional situation. Mr Hashemi-Rafsanjani again expressed the wholehearted support of the Islamic Republic of Iran for the Muslim people of Lebanon, in particular for the Hizballah movement.

Velayati Meets Visiting Amal Delegation

LD1009151789 Tehran IRNA in English 1500 GMT 10 Sep 89

[Text] Tehran, Sept. 10, IRNA—A delegation from Lebanon's Hizballah met with Hojjat ol-Eslam Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani here today and congratulated his election as the new president of the Islamic Republic.

The delegation led by Sayyid Husayn Musavi, Sayyid Ibrahim Amin and Haj Husayn Khalil also gave a report on the latest developments in Lebanon and in the region.

President Hashemi-Rafsanjani in reply reiterated Iran's support for Muslim people of Lebanon especialy Hizballah.

Later in the day, a delegation from Amal headed by Dr Ayyub Humayyid met with Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati and reported on the process of removing existing disputes between Hizballah and Amal. It also thanked Iran for its sincere efforts in preventing further bloodshed by the two Shiite groups.

Expressing satisfaction with the desirable progress in Hizballah- Amal talks, Velayati stressed establishment of firm bonds between Muslim brothers in Lebanon against the Zionist aggressions.

Velayati said the Islamic Republic would continue its support for Islamic and national forces in Lebanon for establishment of a powerful front against Michel 'Awn's illegal government.

The two sides also discussed ways for economic and cultural cooperation between Iran and Lebanon.

Interior Minister Named Security Council Head

NC1009054189 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 10 Sep 89

["Text" of decree issued by Iranian President Hashemi-Rafsanjani in Tehran on 9 September]

[Text] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. Your Excellency Hojjat ol-Eslam val Moslemin 'Abdollah Nuri, the honorable interior minister: In view of your membership in the Supreme Council on National Security and on the basis of Article 176 of the Constitution of the Islamic Republic of Iran, I appoint you chairman of the National Security Council.

The National Security Council will meet in my presence when discussing important, sensitive, and vital problems.

It is fitting that the fight against drugs and social corruption and multifaceted planning for national security receive priority.

I pray to God Almighty for your success in carrying out this important duty.

[Signed] Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani, president of the Islamic Republic of Iran

Powers of Security Forces Chief

LD1009114189 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 10 Sep 89

[Text] In a letter to the Commander in Chief His Eminence Ayatollah Khamene'i, Interior Minister 'Abdollah Nuri has asked to be granted the powers of Commander in Chief in matters relating to the security forces. With the exception of hiring and firing security forces' commanders, the commander in chief has agreed to his request. The interior minister's letter and the reply by the leader of the Islamic revolution are as follows:

In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. To His Eminence Ayatollah Khamene'i, the great leader of the Islamic revolution: Greetings.

I hereby inform the great leader that, considering the vital responsibility of the Interior Ministry to safeguard public security, to reinforce the close communications that should exist by law between the Interior Ministry and the security forces, and to maintain sovereignty and public security, the esteemed commander in chief is hereby requested to assign, if possible, the powers of commander in chief in matters relating to the security forces, gendarmerie, police, and the Islamic Revolution Committee to the interior minister, who is responsible for the country's security, to enable him to better perform his lawful duties, in line with the country's security goals.

I pray to God almighty to grant me His blessings in the performance of my lawful duties, to make the suspicious spirit of the great leader of the Islamic revolution, Imam Khomeyni, satisfied with our efforts, and to grant Your Eminence long life. Peace and God's mercy be upon you.

[Signed] 'Abdollah Nuri, interior minister

The reply by the leader of the Islamic revolution is as follows:

In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. To Hojjat ol-Eslam Haj Sheykh 'Abdollah Nuri: I agree to your proposal, except regarding the hiring and firing of commanders of the three organizations, which will be done at your request and with my approval.

[Signed] Seyyed 'Ali Khamene'i

[Dated] 9 September 1989